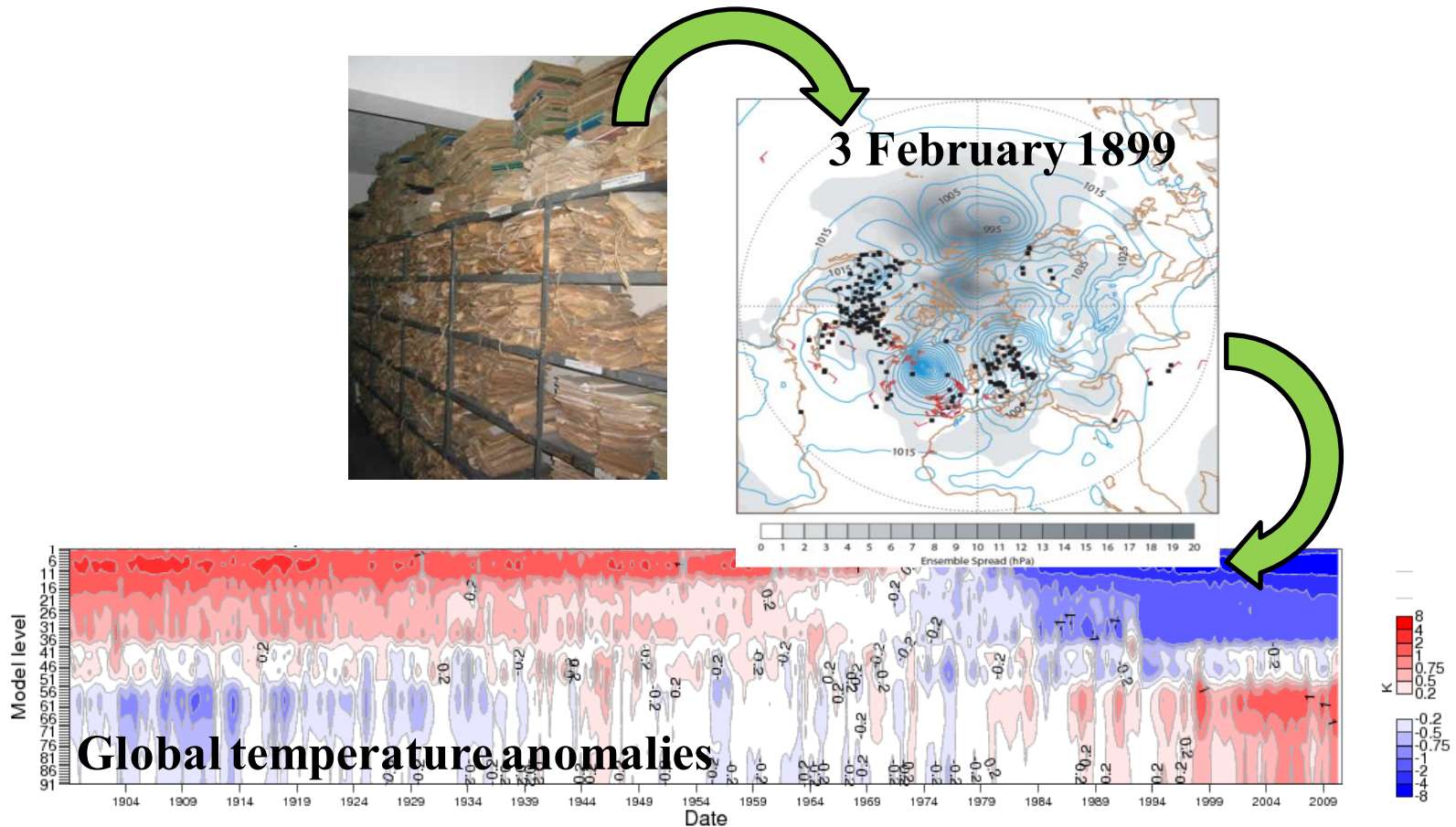


# ECMWF ReAnalysis (ERA) Overview

Hans Hersbach, Paul Poli, Dick Dee and reanalysis team

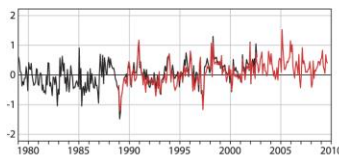
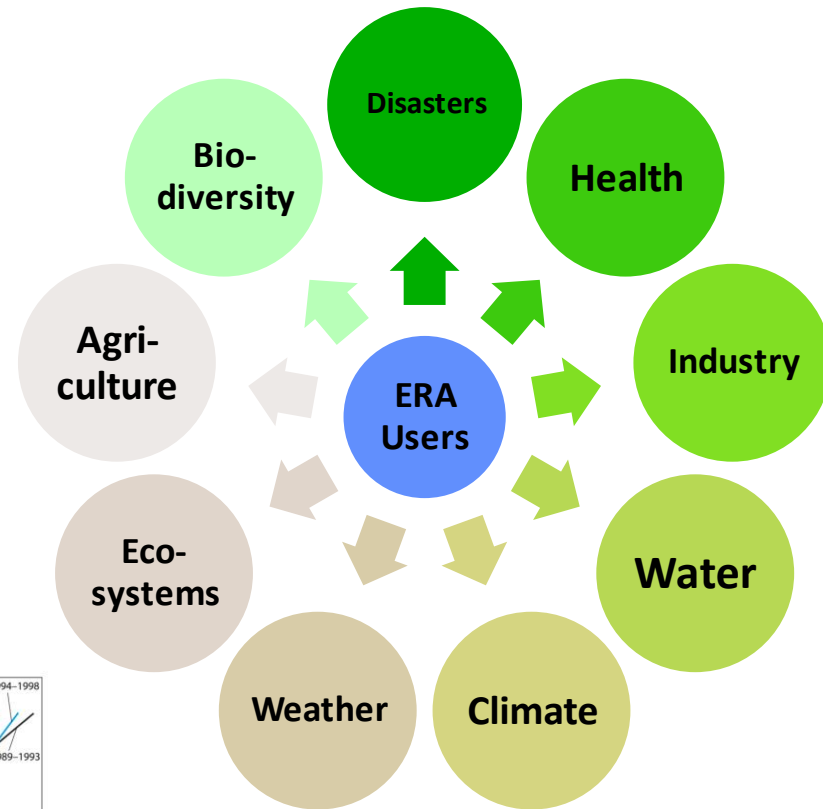


# Outline

- *Introduction*
- *ERA-Interim and preparations for its replacement*
- *ERA-CLIM project and century-long reanalyses*
- *ECMWF reanalysis data server*
- *Concluding remarks*

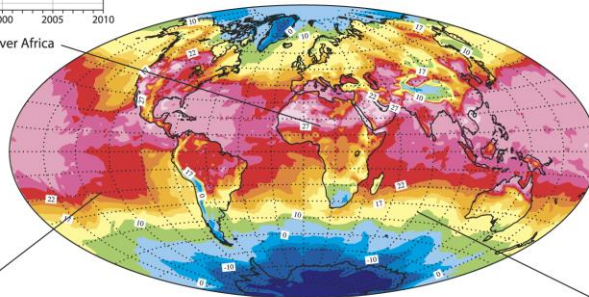
# Use of reanalysis data is widespread

- Academic research, model validation
- Downstream modelling applications
- Climate change impact studies
- Assessment of wind energy potential
- Reinsurance risk analysis
- ... (more than 20,000 registered external users of ERA data servers)

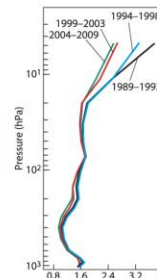
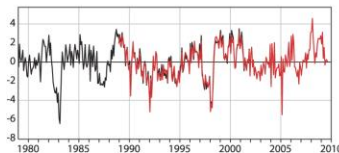


2-metre temperature anomaly (°C) over Africa

ERA-Interim 2-metre temperature (°C)  
15 August 2003 03 UTC



Southern Oscillation Index (hPa)



Standard deviation of differences  
between ERA-Interim and  
radiosondes temperature (°C)  
in the southern hemisphere

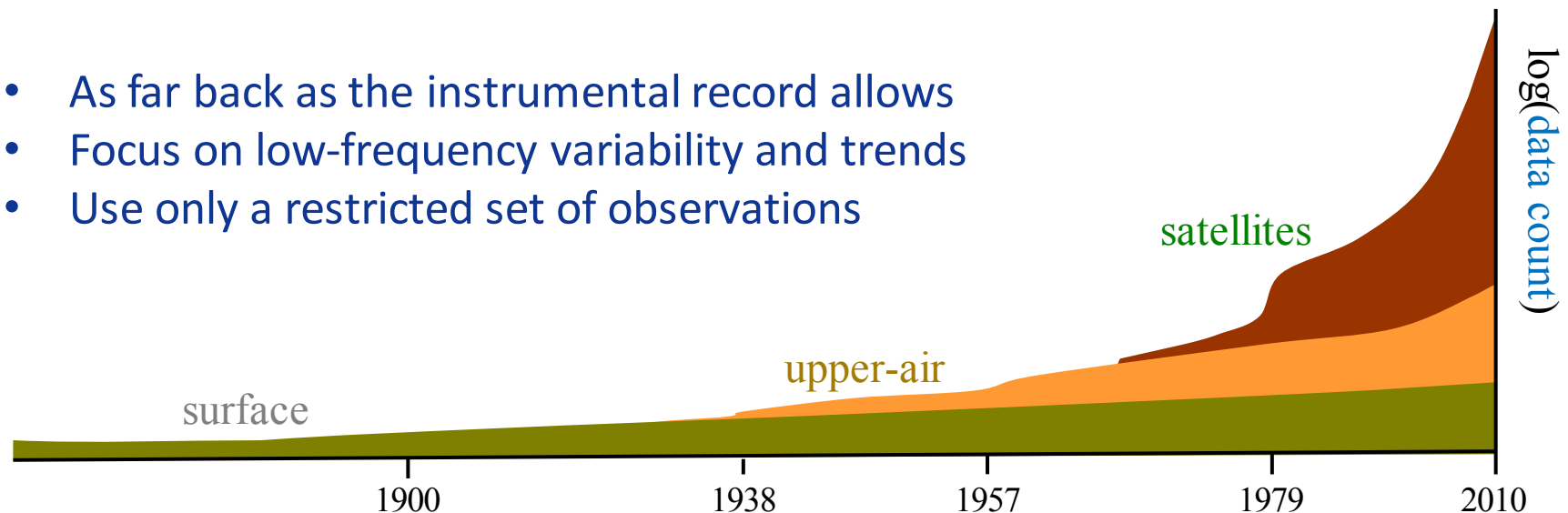
# Climate reanalysis: Two types of products

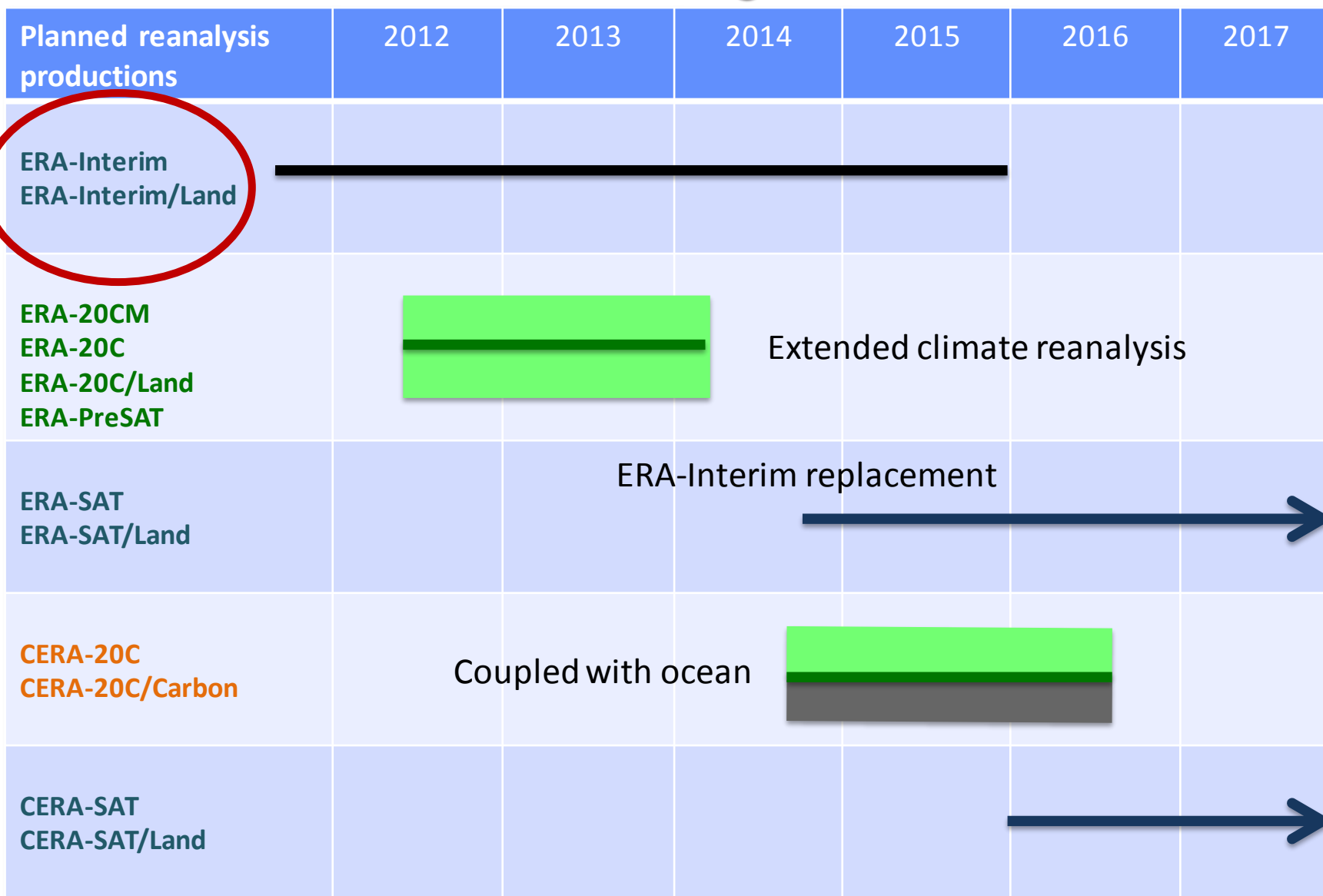
## Reanalyses of the modern observing period (~30-50 years):

- Produce the best state estimate at any given time
- Use as many observations as possible, including from satellites
- Closely tied to forecast system development (NWP and seasonal)
- Near-real time product updates

## Extended climate reanalyses (~100-200 years):

- As far back as the instrumental record allows
- Focus on low-frequency variability and trends
- Use only a restricted set of observations





# Status of ERA-Interim

**ERA-Interim** is a great improvement on ERA-40

Its implementation of **VarBC** was very successful

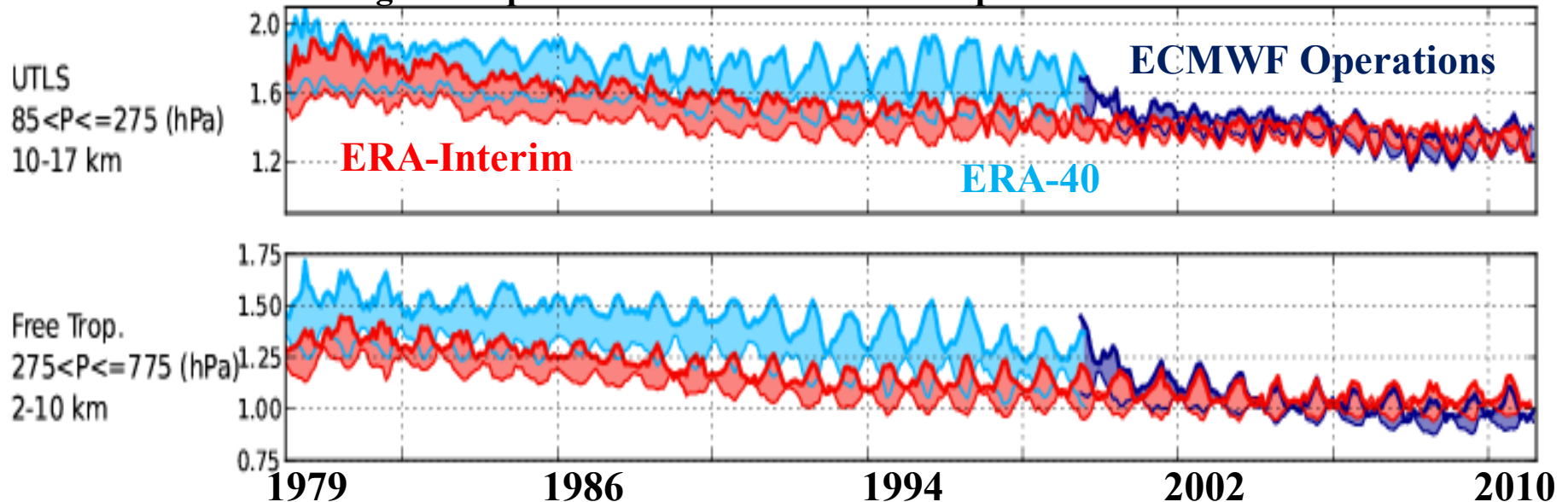
But is based on a **model cycle from 2007** (Cy31r2), which becomes outdated

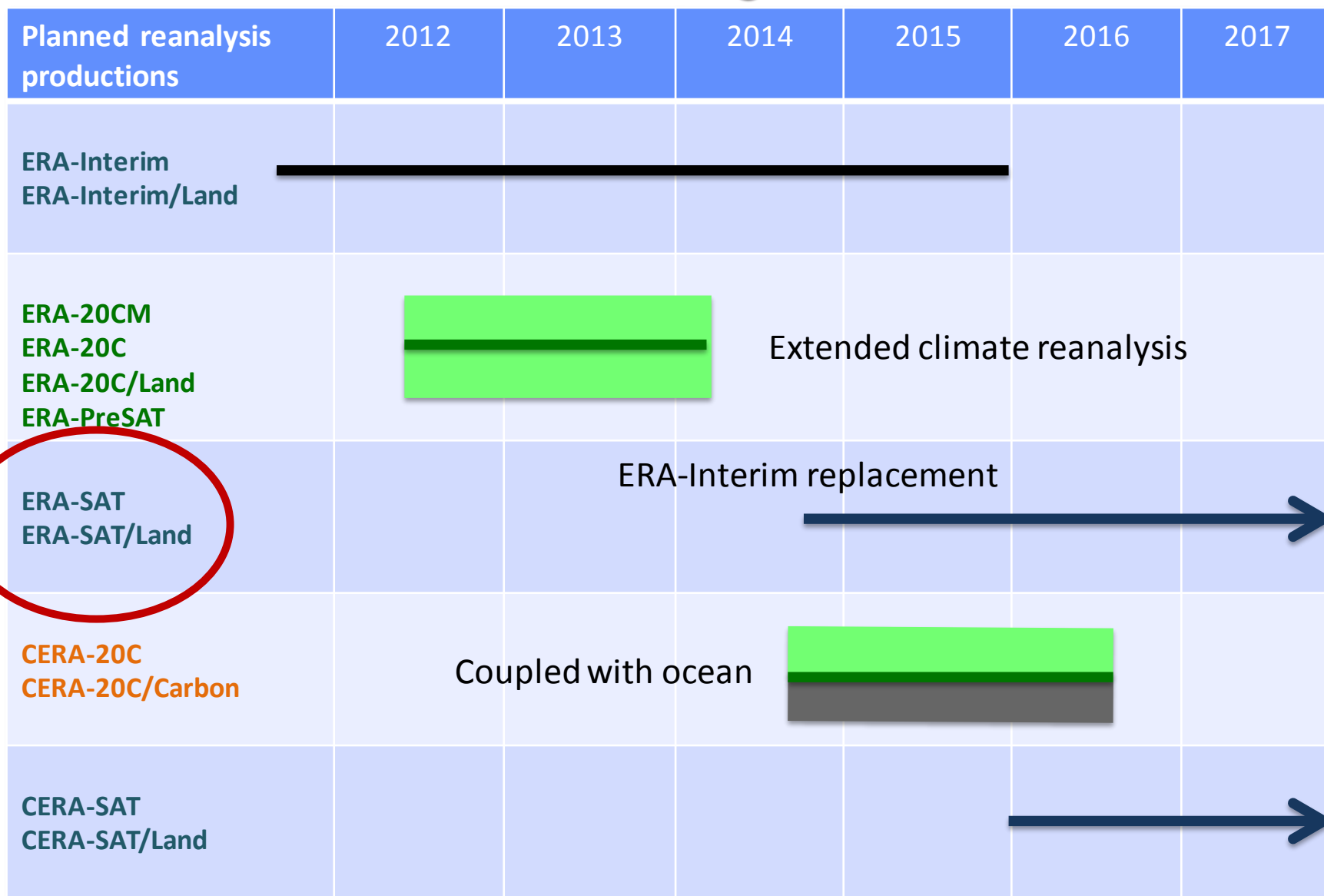
- Does not represent a state-of-the-art NWP model anymore
- Cannot ingest new observing systems due to lack of required code

**T255** (~80km, and 60 levels) has become very cheap to run:

- need for a resolution upgrade and EDA approach

**First-guess departures from radiosonde temperature**





# ERA-SAT configuration

- IFS version **CY40R3 (end 2014)**
- **Ensemble** T255L91 (**~80 km**). Analyses @T95/T159
- High-resolution **deterministic** T511L91 (**~40 km**). Analyses @T95/T159
- **1979-present**, target to produce **hourly output**
- **20<sup>th</sup> century** SST, sea-ice boundary condition and CMIP5 **forcing**
- Among other, variational bias correction of **aircraft data**

- **Reprocessed / improved datasets:**

METEOSAT, GOES, GMS, AVHRR NOAA and METOP **AMV**

METEOSAT **radiances**, ASCAT **sigma0**

SSMI **radiances** (CM-SAF)

SBUV and TOMS **ozone** (NASA v8.6)

ERS **soil moisture**

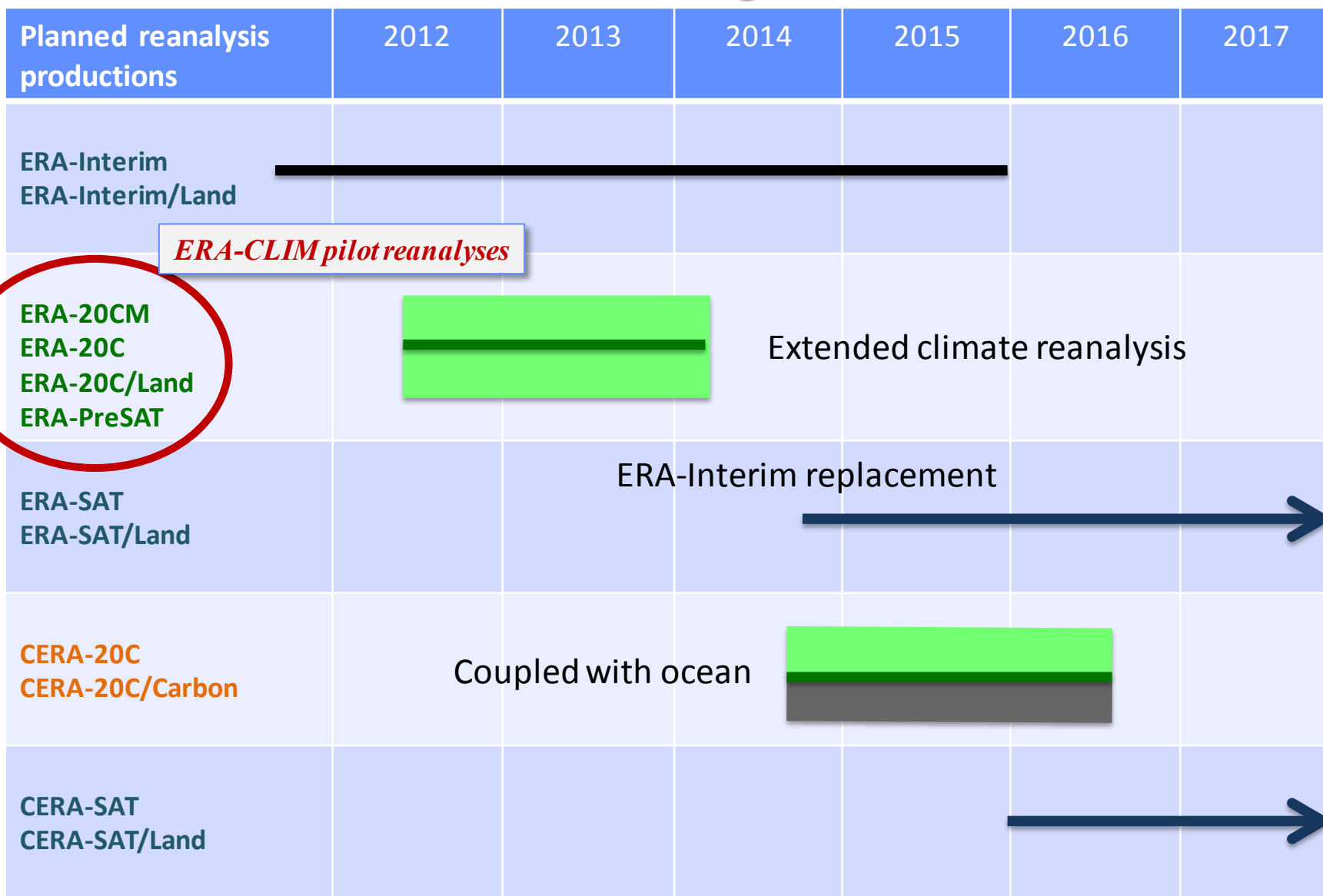
NCAR **upper-air in situ** observations

**Surface** pressures (ISPD) and marine reports (ICOADS)

+Various **observation operator improvements:**

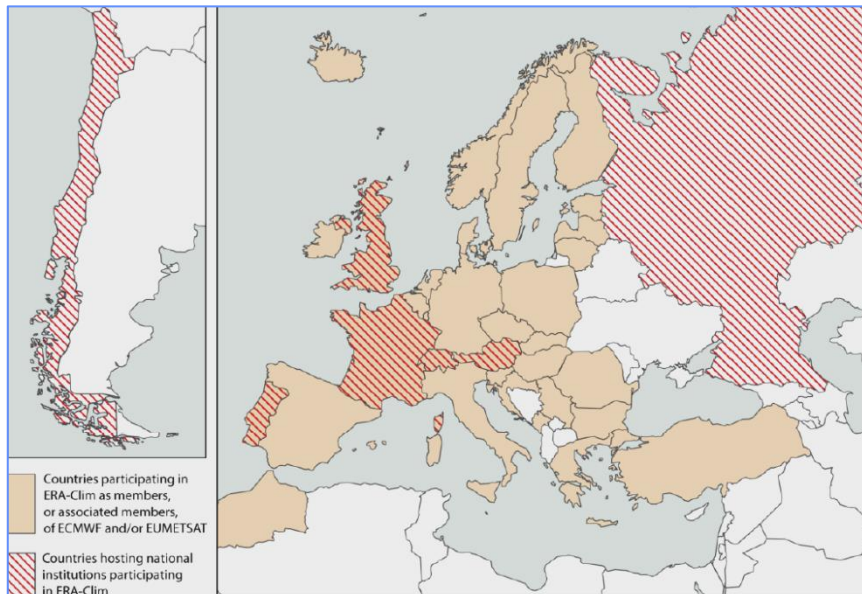
- ✓ Microwave and infrared frequency shifts
- ✓ Time-varying SSU cell pressure
- ✓ Time-varying atmospheric CO2 concentration





# The ERA-CLIM project

- **ERA-CLIM:** European Reanalysis of Global Climate Observations
- 3-year collaborative research project, 2011-2013
- Within the EU research FP7 programme, Environment theme
- **9 partners, 59 person-years**

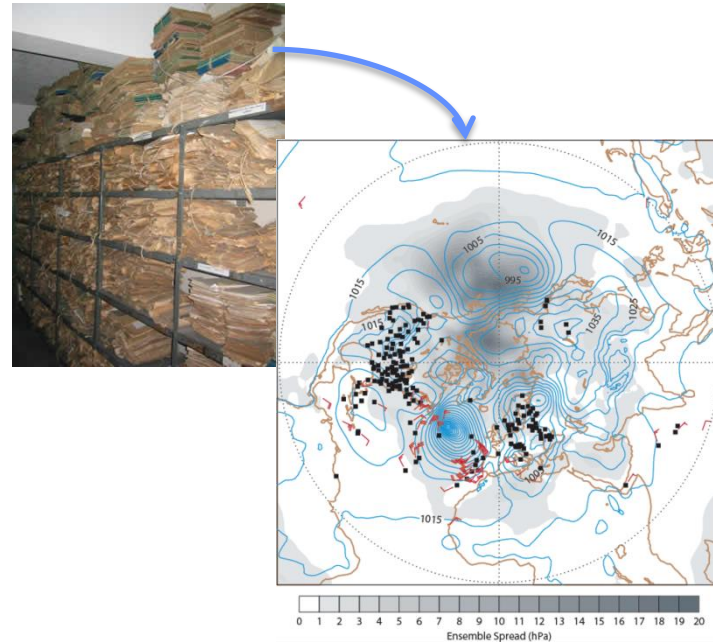


## Partners:

Met Office,  
Météo-France,  
EUMETSAT,  
Uni Vienna,  
Uni Bern,  
Uni Lisbon,  
RIHMI-WDC (Russia),  
UPAC (Chile),  
ECMWF

# The ERA-CLIM project

**Goal:** Preparing input observations, model data, and data assimilation systems for a global atmospheric reanalysis of the 20<sup>th</sup> century



## Main components:

1. **Data rescue** efforts (in-situ surface, upper-air)
2. **Atmospheric boundary conditions** (SST, sea ice), forcing data (solar, ozone, aerosols), satellite reprocessing
3. Conducting a number of **20<sup>th</sup> century pilot reanalyses**
4. Use of **reanalysis feedback** to improve the data record
5. Provide **access** to reanalysis data and observation quality information

# Data rescue

Uni Bern, Météo-France, Uni Lisbon, RIHMI, UPAC

## **One dedicated WP; Led by Uni Bern**

*Stickler et. al., 2013 (Earth Syst. Data Discuss), 2014 (BAMS)*

## **More than 2.5 Million station days were preserved on more than 450.000 images**

- ✓ Organized in a historical climate meta database
- ✓ Four types of data:
  - Surface / upper-air
  - Fixed / moving

## **About 50% of these were digitized during ERA-CLIM**

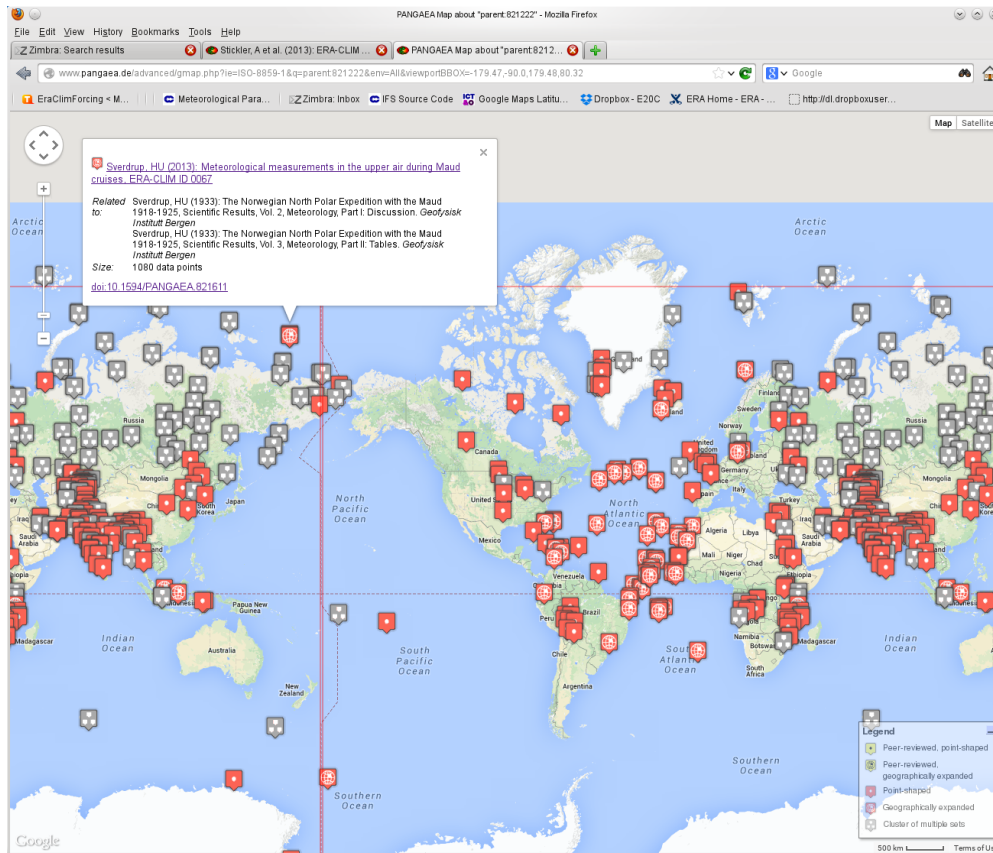
- ✓ Hard work!
- ✓ Common format; similar to CHUAN
- ✓ Priorities:
  - Data sparse regions (poles, tropics, oceans)
  - Early 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - Long time series
- ✓ Quality control, range checking etc.

**This activity is continued in ERA-CLIM2**

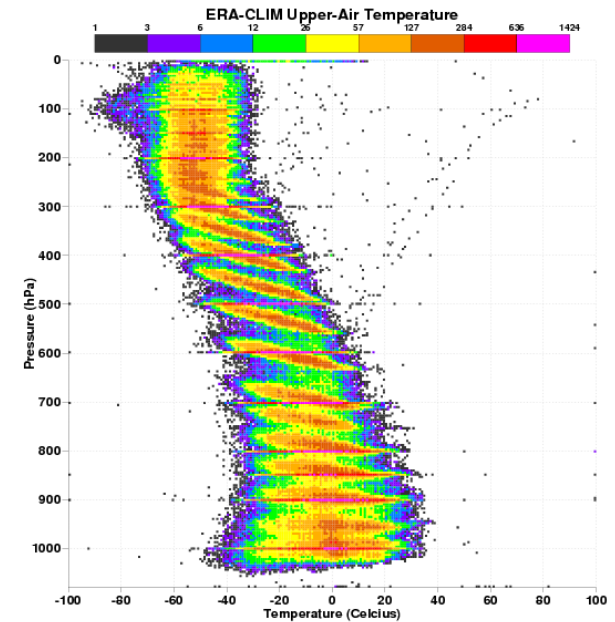
# Data rescue, upper-air data



- ✓ Data will be merged in the next version of CHUAN
- ✓ Is available via <http://doi.pangaea.de/10.1594/PANGAEA.821222>
- ✓ Is being used in a pilot reanalysis at ECMWF



Digitized upper-air data, as available via Pangaea

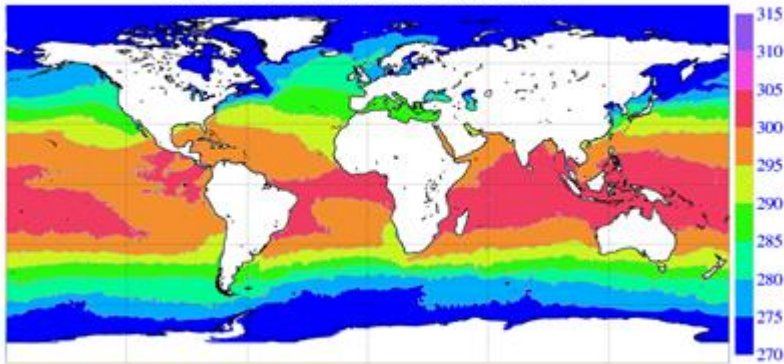


Temperature recorded on pressure levels

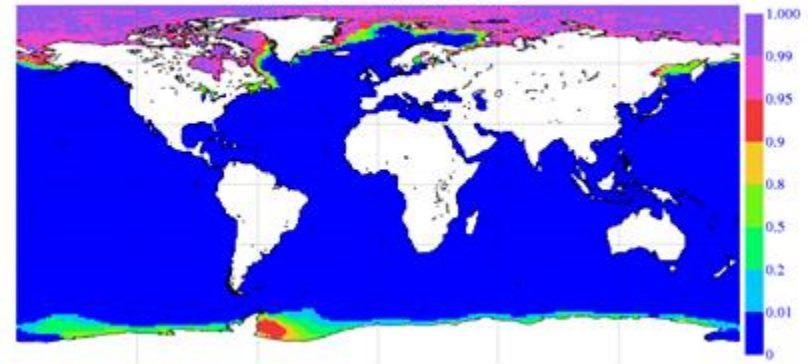


# Sea-surface temperature and sea-ice cover: HadISST2

Sea surface temperature (139), 5 March 1899, HadISST2  
MEAN: 291.09 MAX: 304.92 MIN: 271.35

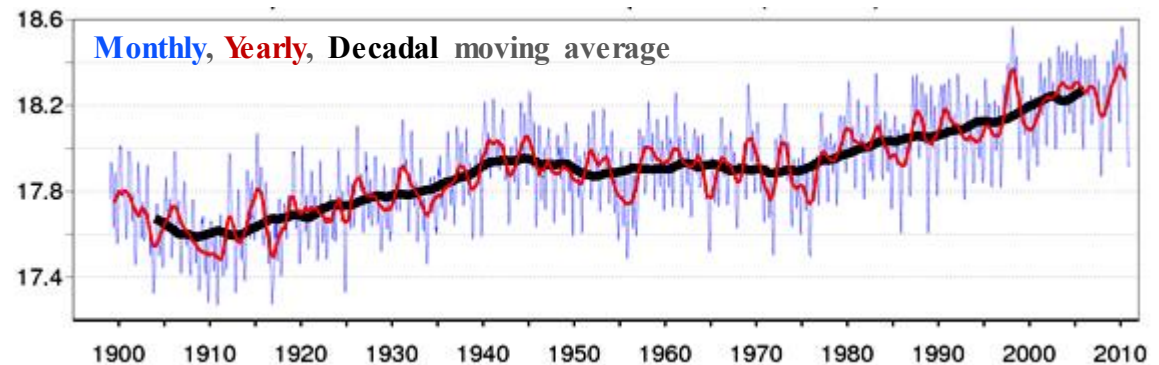


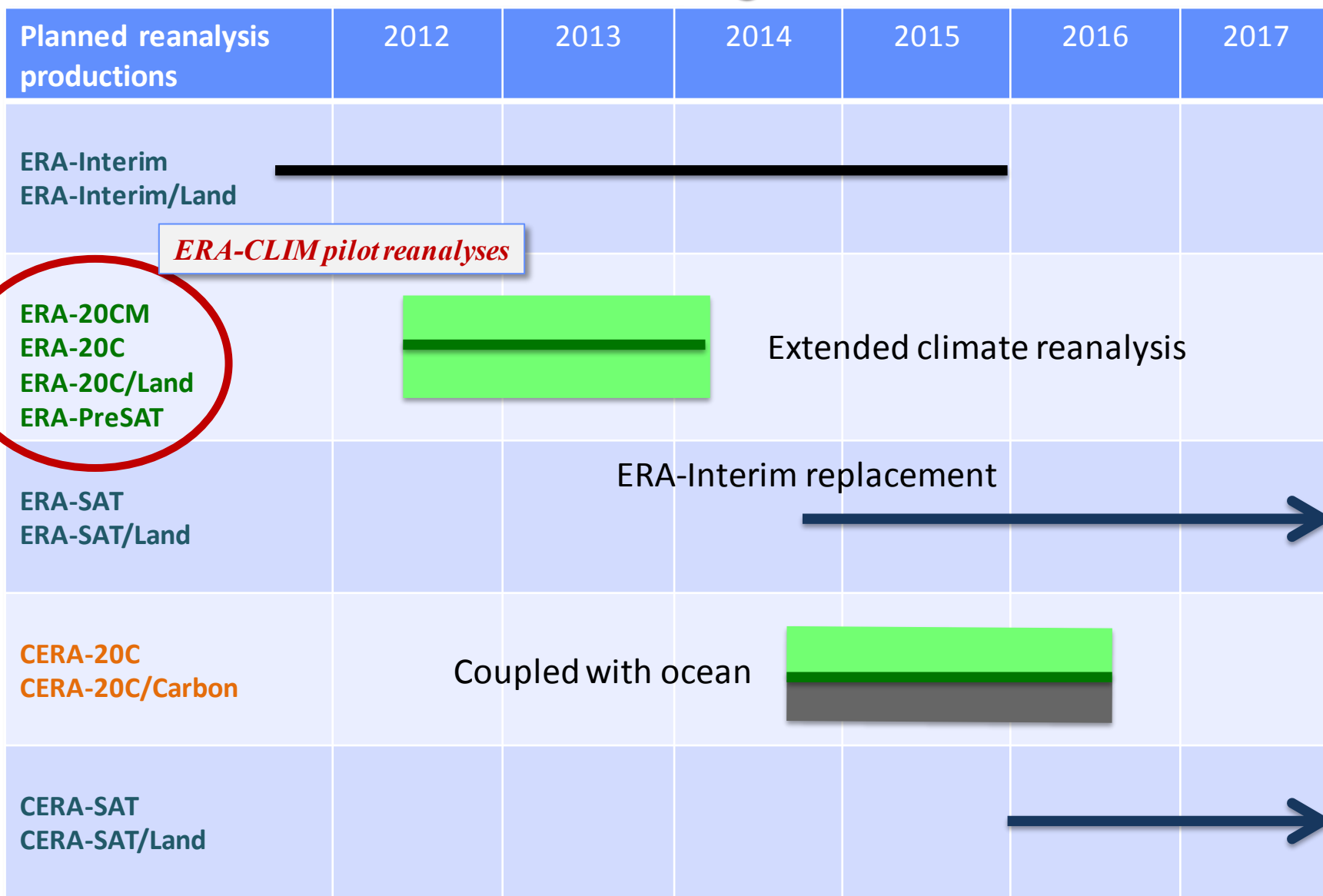
Sea-ice cover (31), 5 March 1899, HadISST2  
MEAN: 0.045 MAX: 1 MIN: 0



Produced by the *Hadley Centre* (follow-up of HadISST1),  
*Rayner et al. 2013, Kennedy et. al. 2013, Titcher and Rayner 2013*

- **1899-2010**, 0.25-degree gridded daily fields
- two releases and two flavours
- Data: in situ ICOADS, Met Office database, AVHRR pathfinder (1985-2007), ATSR2 and AATSR (1995-2011)
- **Ensemble**: 10 equally likely realizations
- Used in *all* ERA-CLIM pilot reanalyses





# ***ERA-CLIM pilot reanalyses***

## ***ERA-20CM, ERA-20C, ERA-20CL, ERA-PreSAT***

**Conducted at ECMWF**

**IFS: Coupled atmosphere and ocean-wave components**

- ✓ **All:** Atm: **T159** (~125km) **91 levels**, WAM: **1.5°**, **12 directions**
- ✓ **Except:** ERA-20C/Land surface: **T799** (~25km)

**Period:**

- ✓ **All:** **1899 – 2010 and 10-member ensemble**
- ✓ **Except:** ERA-PreSAT: **1939-1956+, no ensemble**

**All pilot runs use:**

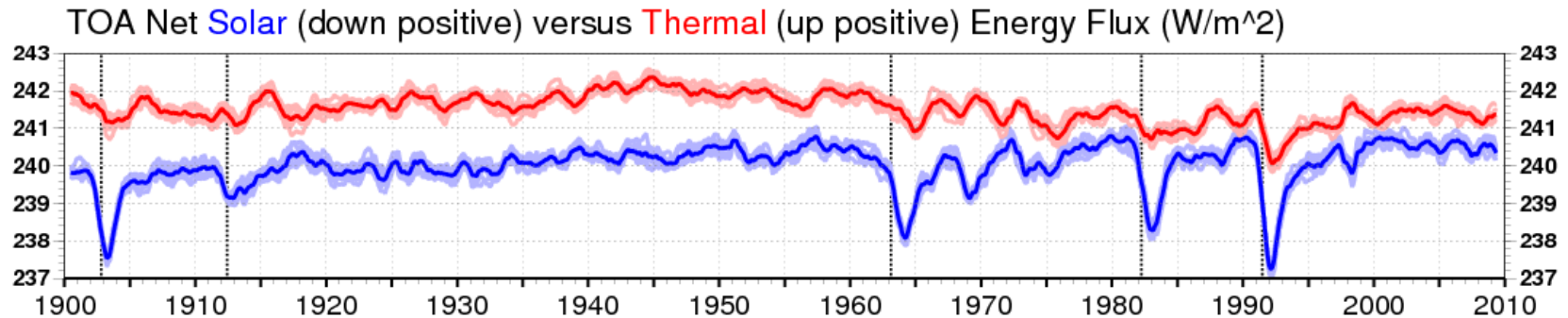
- ✓ **HadISST2** SST and sea ice fraction,
- ✓ **CMIP5** long-term forcing for total solar irradiance, ozone, greenhouse gases, aerosols. (synergy with **EC-EARTH**)





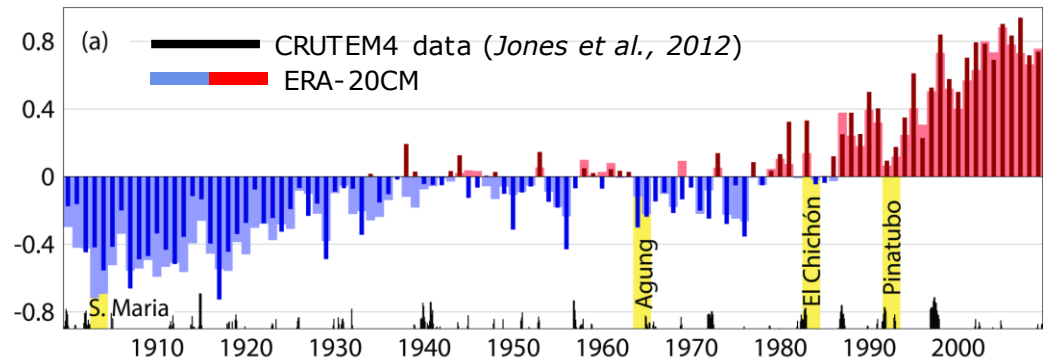
# ERA-20CM

(forced model integration, no synoptic data assimilation)



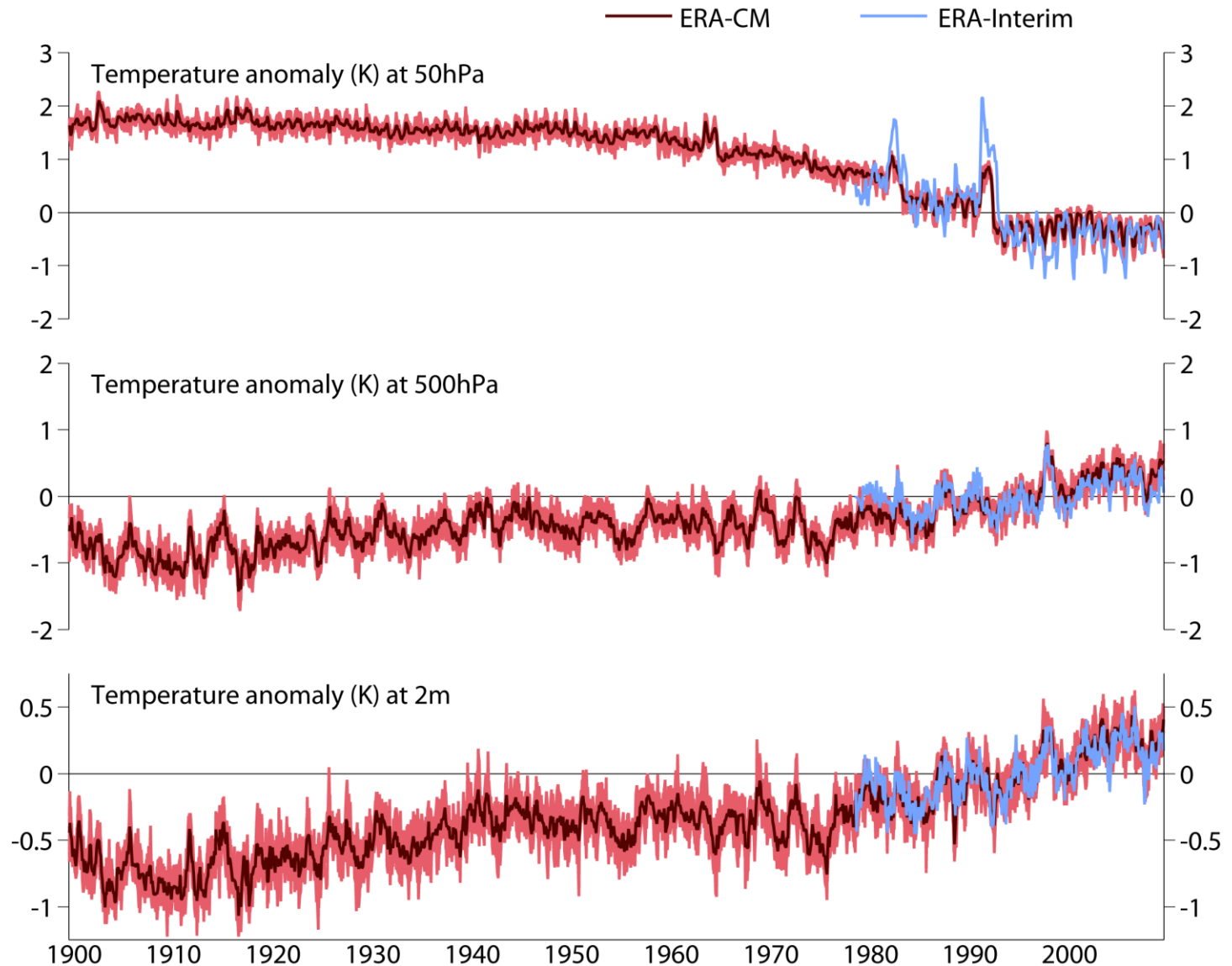
- ✓ Although there are certainly model biases:
- ✓ **ERA-20CM** gives **good** reference of **low-frequency variability**
- ✓ **Well suited** to **project** global warming and major events **onto other geophysical quantities** not directly provided in the forcing data

+ HadISST2



*Hersbach, Peubey et. al. 2013, ERA report series (16)*

# ERA-20CM: Temperature trends + uncertainties



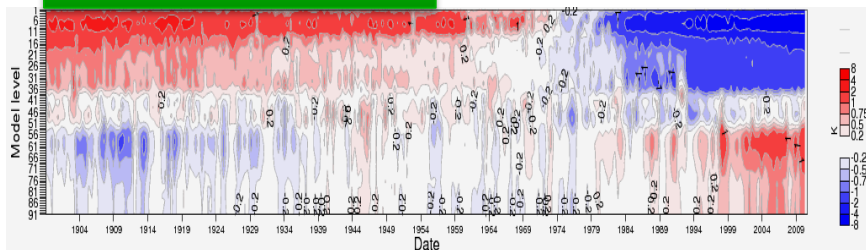
# ERA-20C

*Poli et. al. 2013, ERA report series (14)*

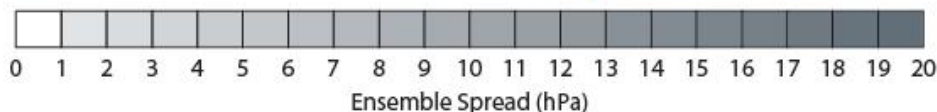
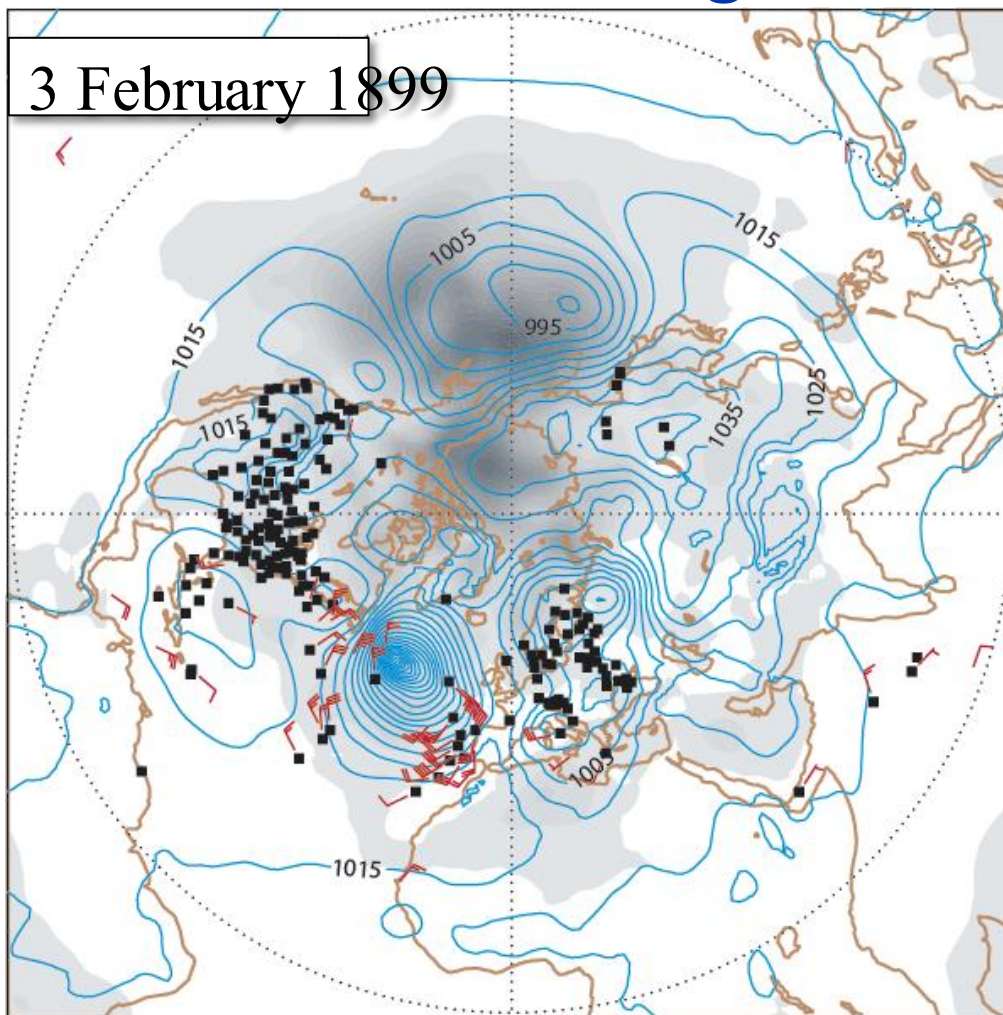
Inspired on the NOAA/CIRES **20CR** reanalysis

- ✓ Usage of synoptic pressure and marine wind from **ICOADS** and **ISPD** (~1.5 Billion obs)
- ✓ Variational bias correction based on *break-point* analysis from **20CR** feedback information
- ✓ Ensemble Data assimilation of 10 members
  - Self-updating background error
- ✓ Deterministic re-run
  - Use background info from the ensemble

## Temperature trend



# ERA-20C: Assimilating surface observations



## **TERRIFIC STORMS AT SEA**

**Steamships from All Quarters Report Extremely Rough Voyages.**

## **ALL MORE OR LESS BATTERED**

**Vessels Sighted in Distress and Abandoned — Blinding Snow and Waves Like Mountains.**

All the steamers that came in yesterday were coated with ice from the tops of the masts down to the water line, and all had passed through storms of blinding snow and mountainous waves. The British steamer *Ethelgonda*, from Bristol and Swansea, which left the latter port on Jan. 19, ran into a gale of hurricane force, and seas swept her decks repeatedly. So fierce was the wind that the boat drifted before the gales and was barely able to keep steerage way. She anchored outside the bar late Sunday afternoon. The cable parted and she lost her anchor, together with 100 fathoms of chain. Then the great snow-storm drove her 150 miles off the shore. She succeeded in getting back late on Tuesday night.

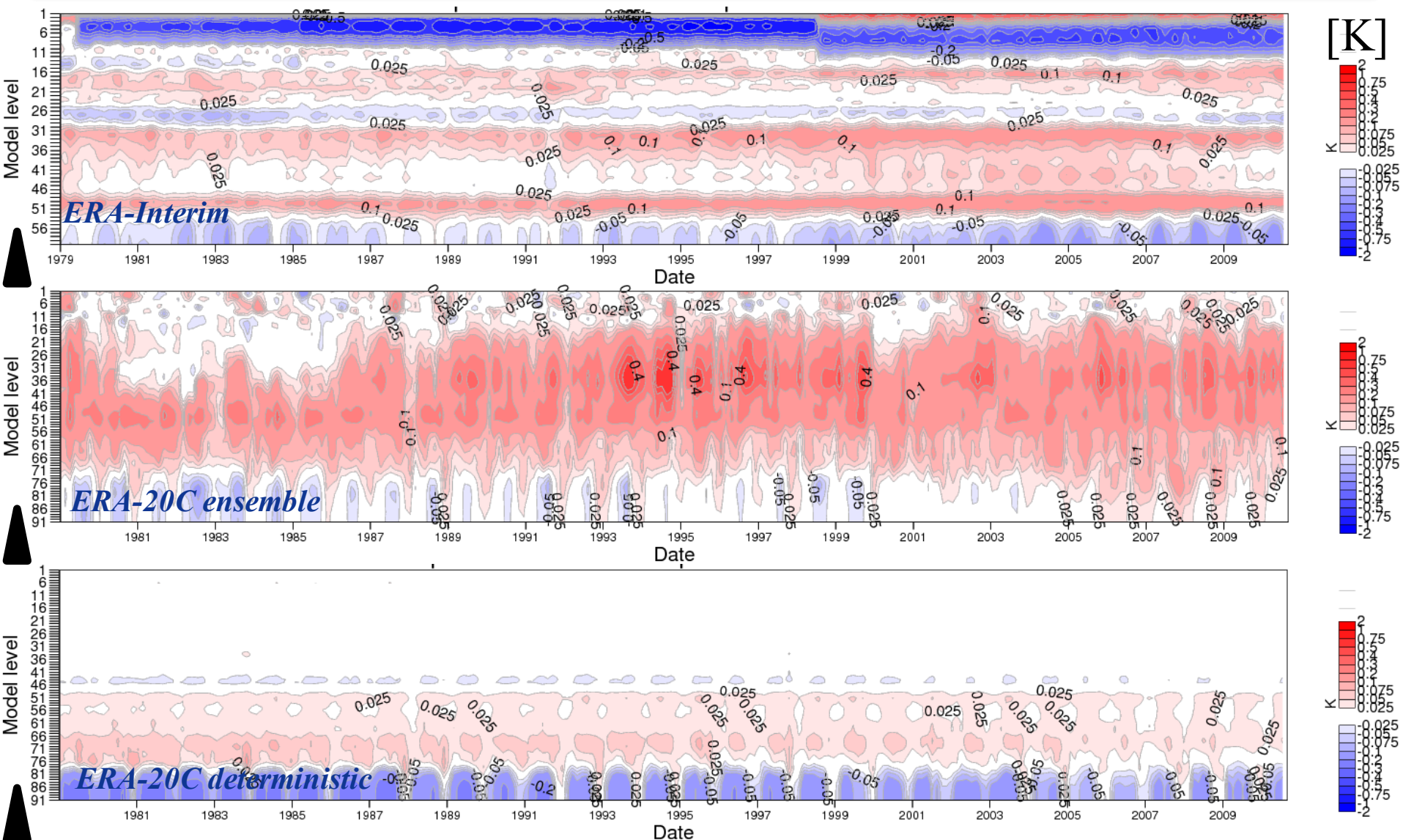
The French liner *La Bretagne*, from Havre, came in a little before noon yesterday, with 58 cabin and 225 steerage passen-

**The New York Times**

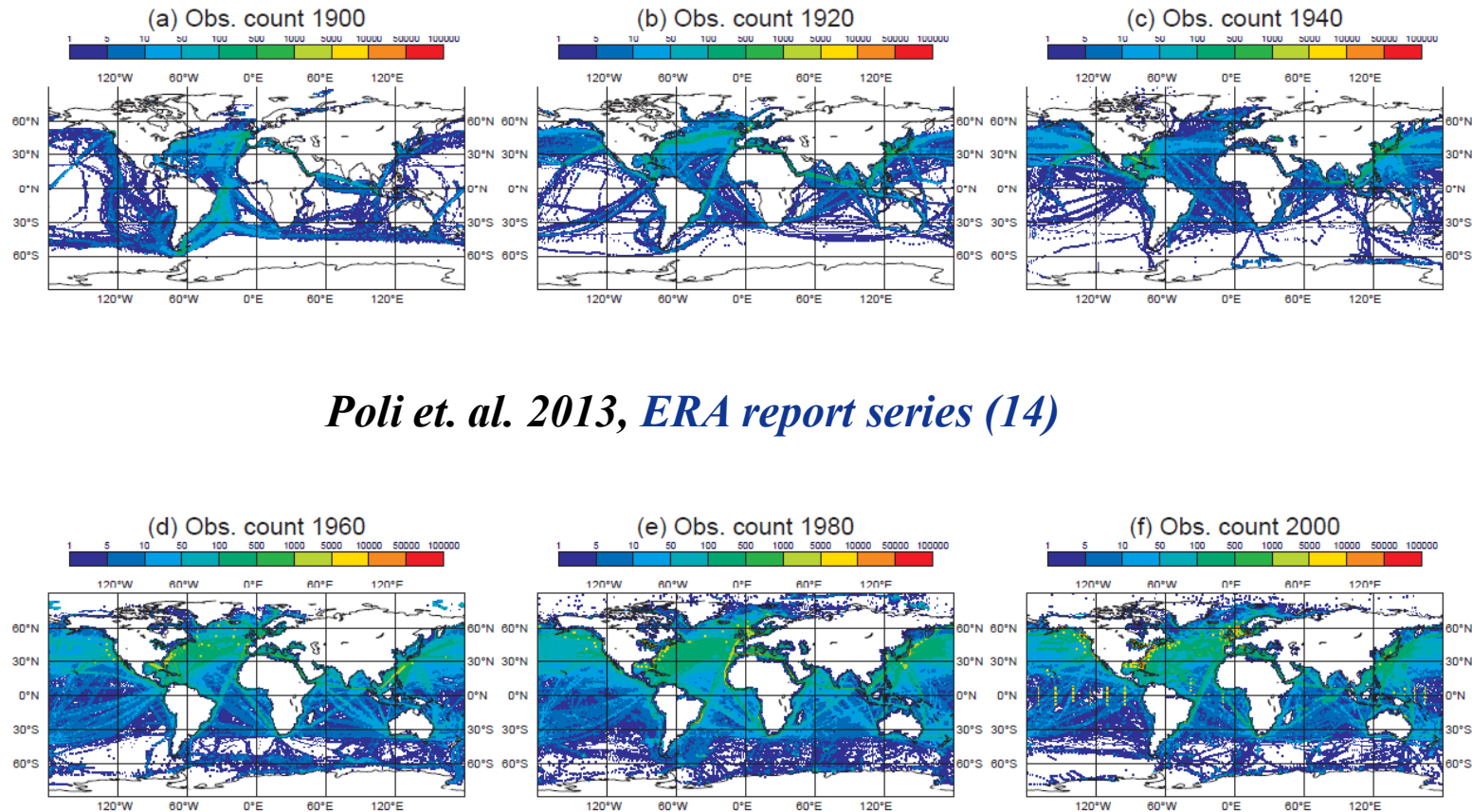
Published: February 16, 1899  
Copyright © The New York Times



# Temperature analysis increments 1979-2010



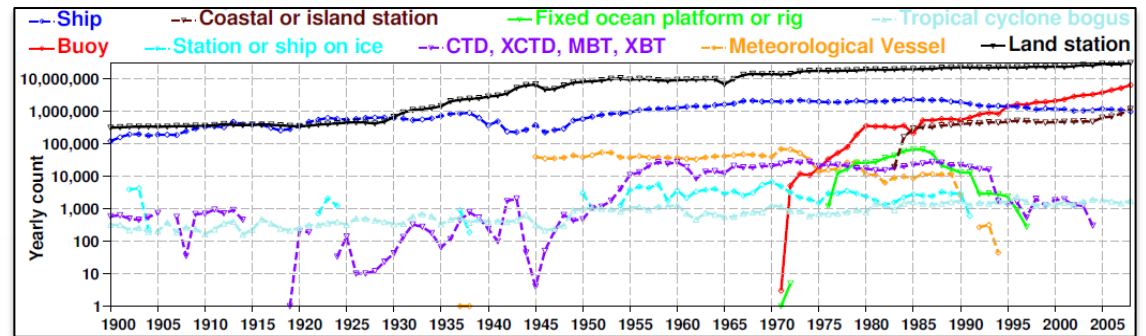
# Surface (vector) wind from ICOADS



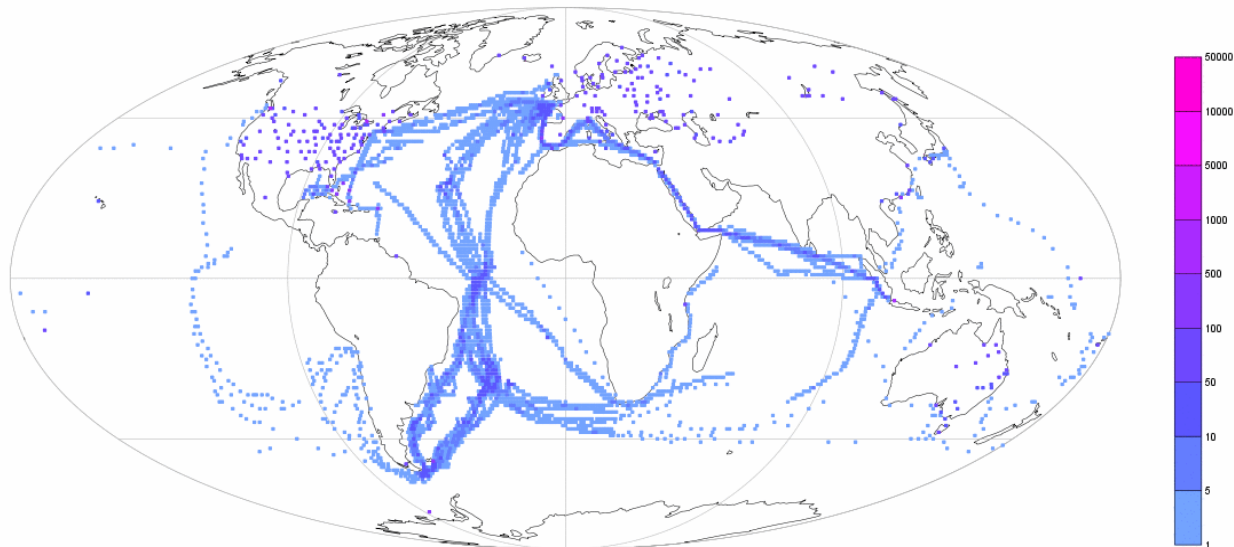
*Poli et. al. 2013, ERA report series (14)*

Figure 4: Maps of surface wind vector observation count (from ICOADS 2.5.1), for selected years, in  $1^\circ$  latitude  $\times$   $1^\circ$  longitude bins

# Surface and MSL Pressure from ICOADS and ISPD



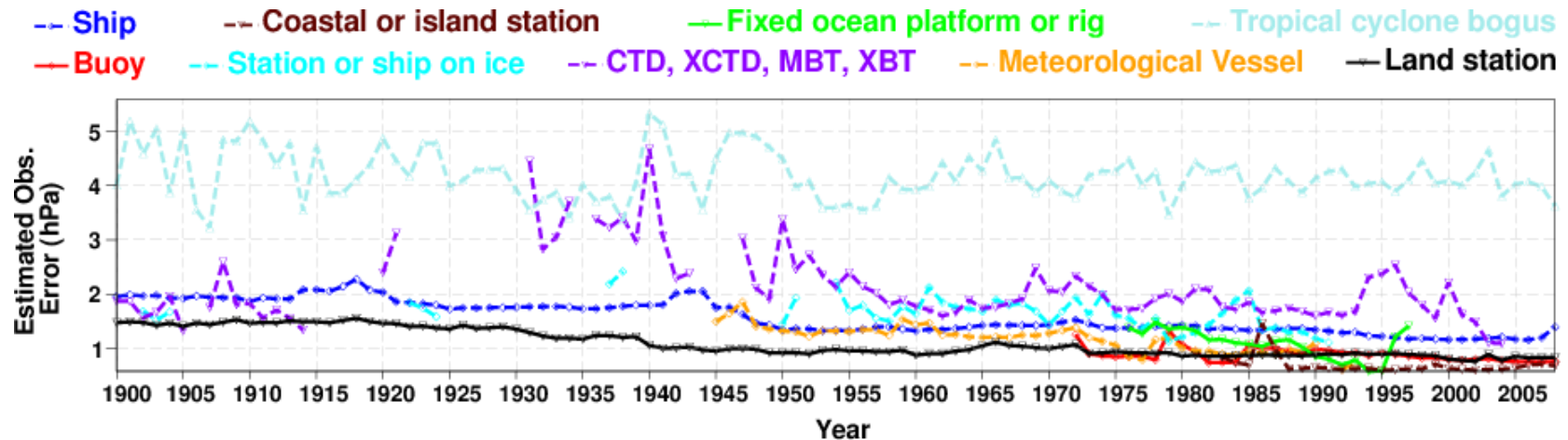
ISPD 3.2.6 and ICOADS 2.5.1 pressure observations assimilated in ERA-20C



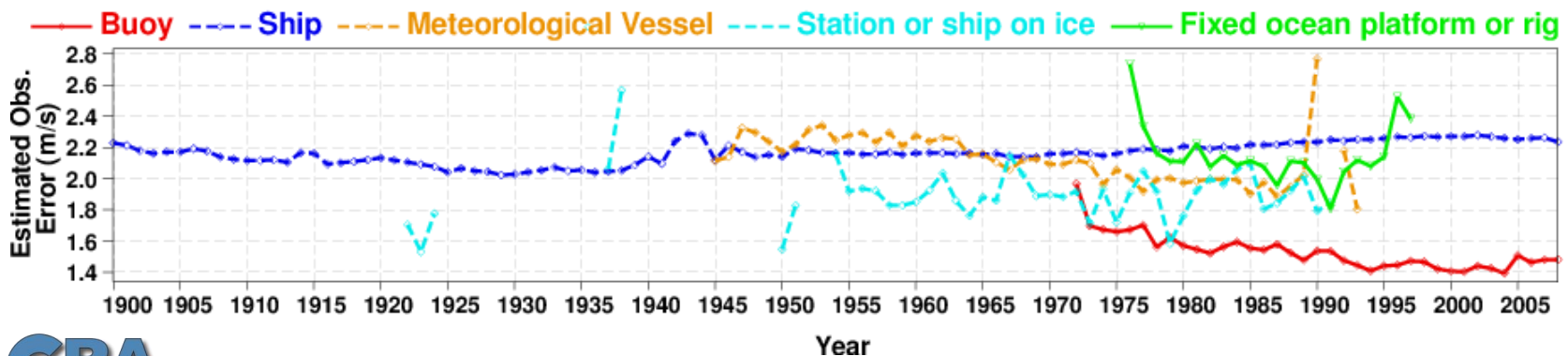
1899

# Feedback: estimates on observation error (*Desrosier et. al*) from (model-obs) departure statistics

## Pressure



## Wind





# Variational BC using break-point analysis

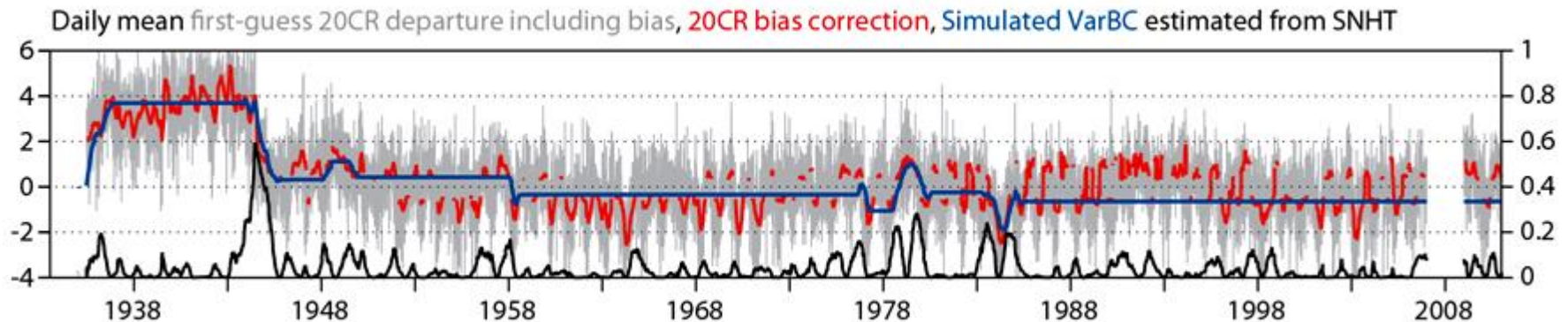
Perform VarBC on platform level (more than 1 million ships, also tracking issue)

- Has to be rigid; otherwise the signal is taken away from the observations

Build on feedback information from 20CR (ISPD and ICOADS)

- detect break points in advance, create quantity: *bias volatility* (=normalized SNHT)

Time Series Index: 000004, Stat id: 723060HU, Surface Pressure Ps (hPa), all data Manual Land SYNOP, 01000: Global Land Surface Observations (Federal Climate Complex Integrated Surface Database) 1901-2008



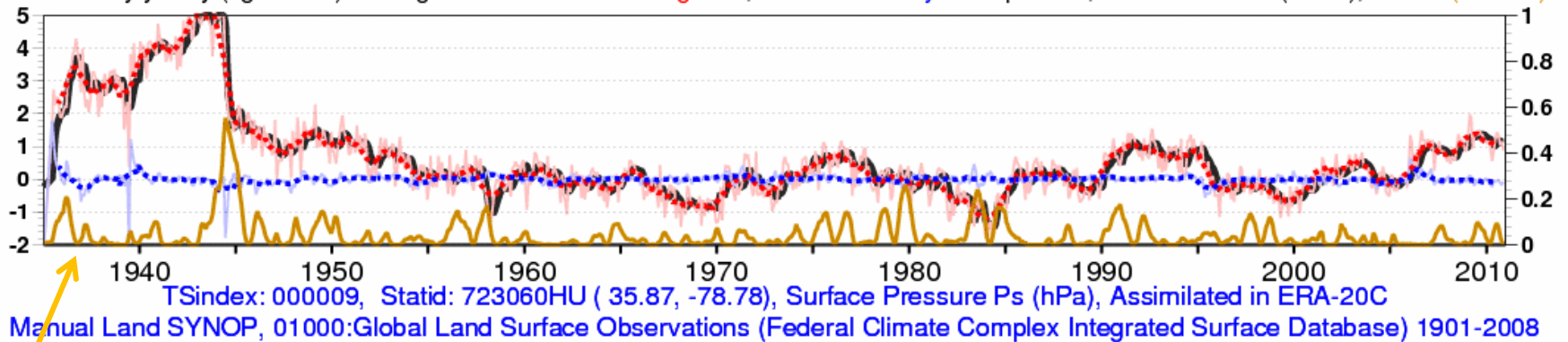
## Standard Normal Homogeneity Test (SNHT)

- Used e.g., by *Haimberger (2005)* for homogenization of radiosonde data
- Expresses the difference in long-term average departures *before* and *after* an observation.
- Let the response time of **VarBC** depend on the history of the *bias volatility*

# Applied VarBC in ERA-20C

## Raleigh-Durham International Airport (NC)

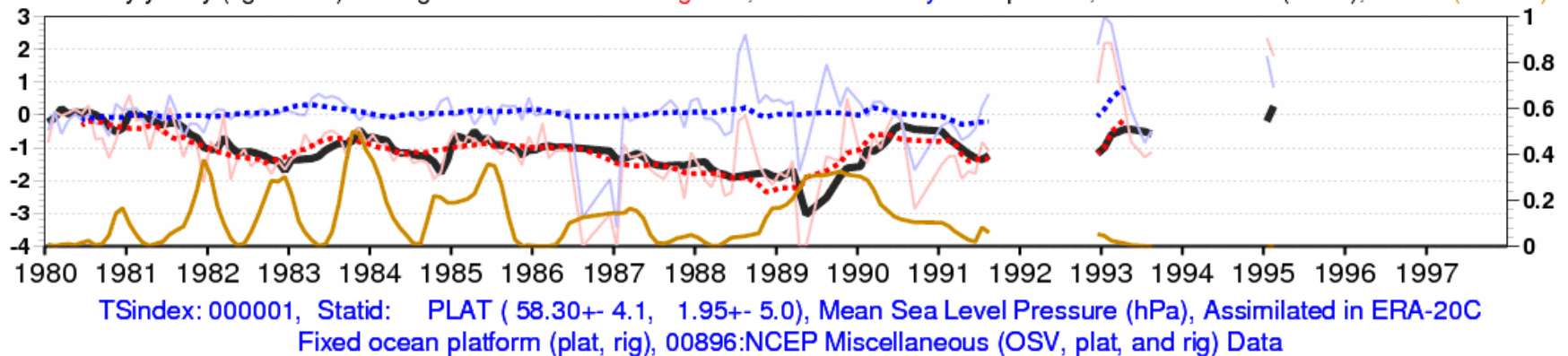
Monthly/yearly (light/dark) average of **uncorrected first-guess**, **corrected analysis** departure, bias correction (black), **SNHT** (bottom)



From 20CR

## Platforms and Rigs

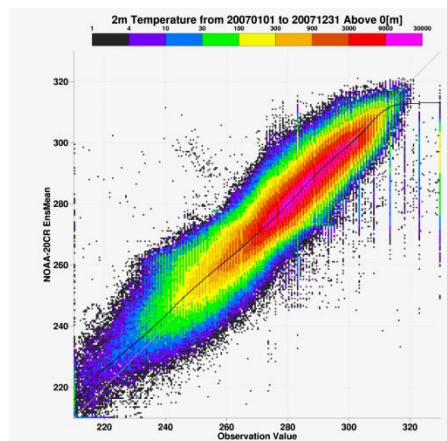
Monthly/yearly (light/dark) average of **uncorrected first-guess**, **corrected analysis** departure, bias correction (black), **SNHT** (bottom)



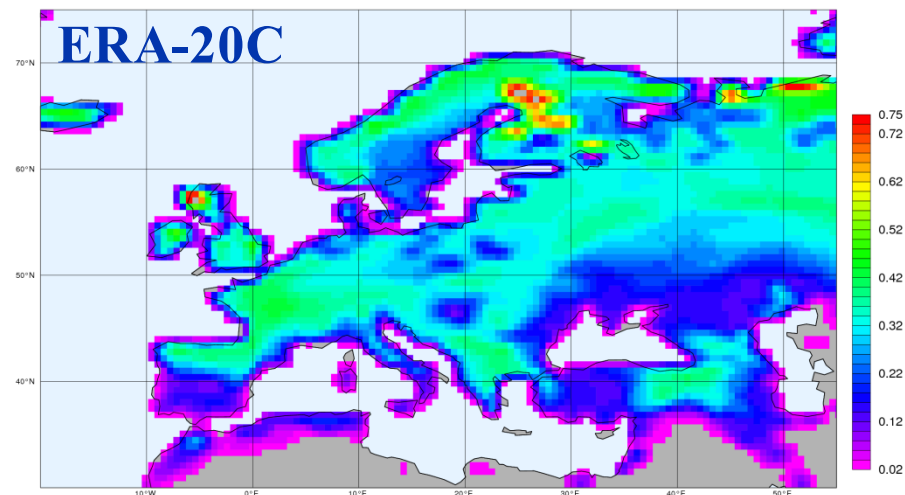
# ERA-20C/Land

- Down-scaling the ERA-20C reanalysis at the surface **to 25km (T799)**  
*T. Komori*

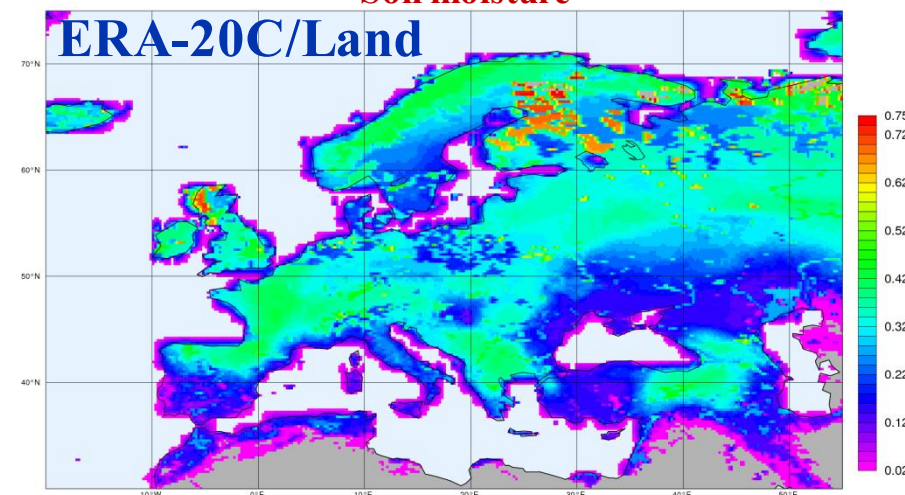
Method as used in ERA-Interim/Land  
*Balsamo et. al. 2012, ERA Report Series (13)*



**2m temperature over land  
versus observations**



**Soil moisture**



# ***ERA Pre-SAT: Usage of early upper-air data***

- Deterministic reanalysis from **1939 – 1956+**  
demonstration run
  
- In addition to surface data, use *all* available **upper-air data**:
  - ✓ **CHUAN**, **NCAR** holdings, **ERA-CLIM** data  
*Joey Comeaux (NCAR)*



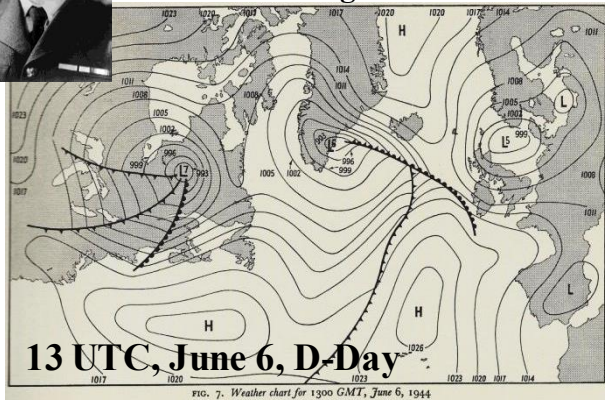


# The forecast for D-Day (June 6, 1944)

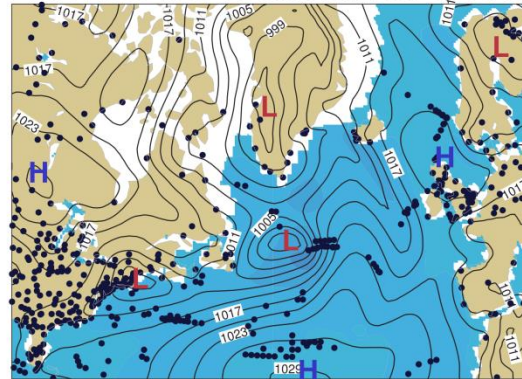
Simmons et. al. 2014, [www.ecmwf.int](http://www.ecmwf.int)



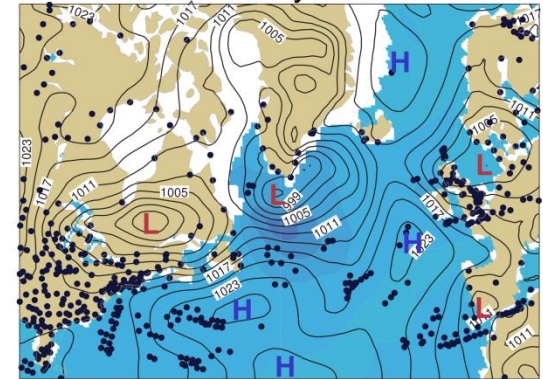
Chart by James Stagg,  
Chief Meteorologist



ERA-20C 108-hr forecast for D-DAY

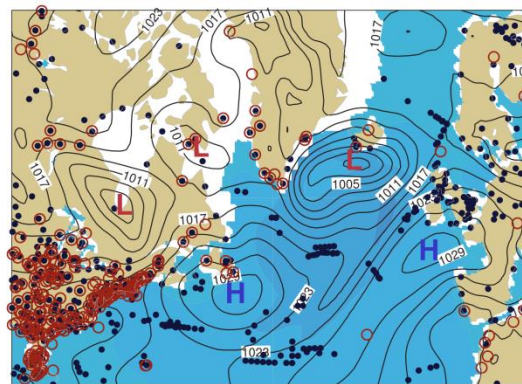


ERA-20C Analysis for D-DAY

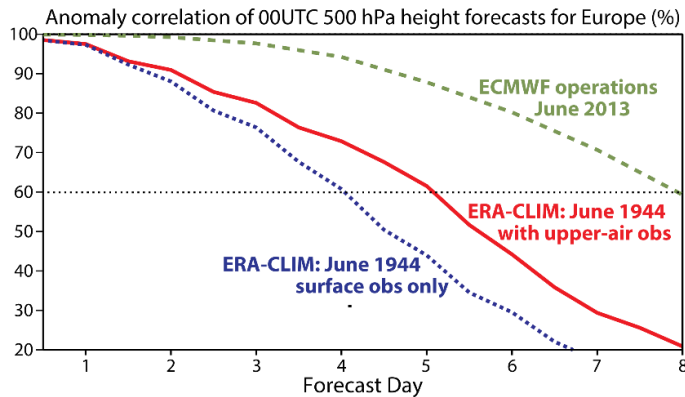
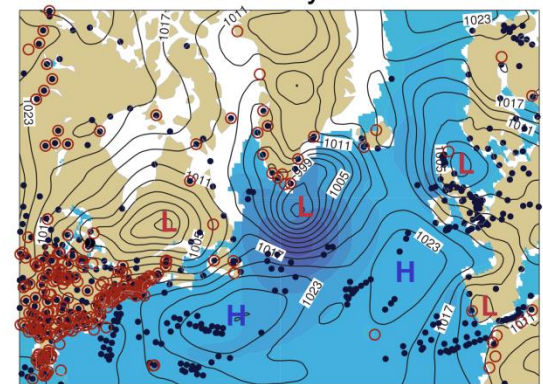


8  
7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
0  
Significant wave height [m]

ERA-PreSAT 108-hr forecast for D-DAY



ERA-PreSAT Analysis for D-DAY



Surface  
Upper air (mostly Pilot)

# The storm of 19-22 June 1944

00UTC 18 June 1944

Jean Bidlot

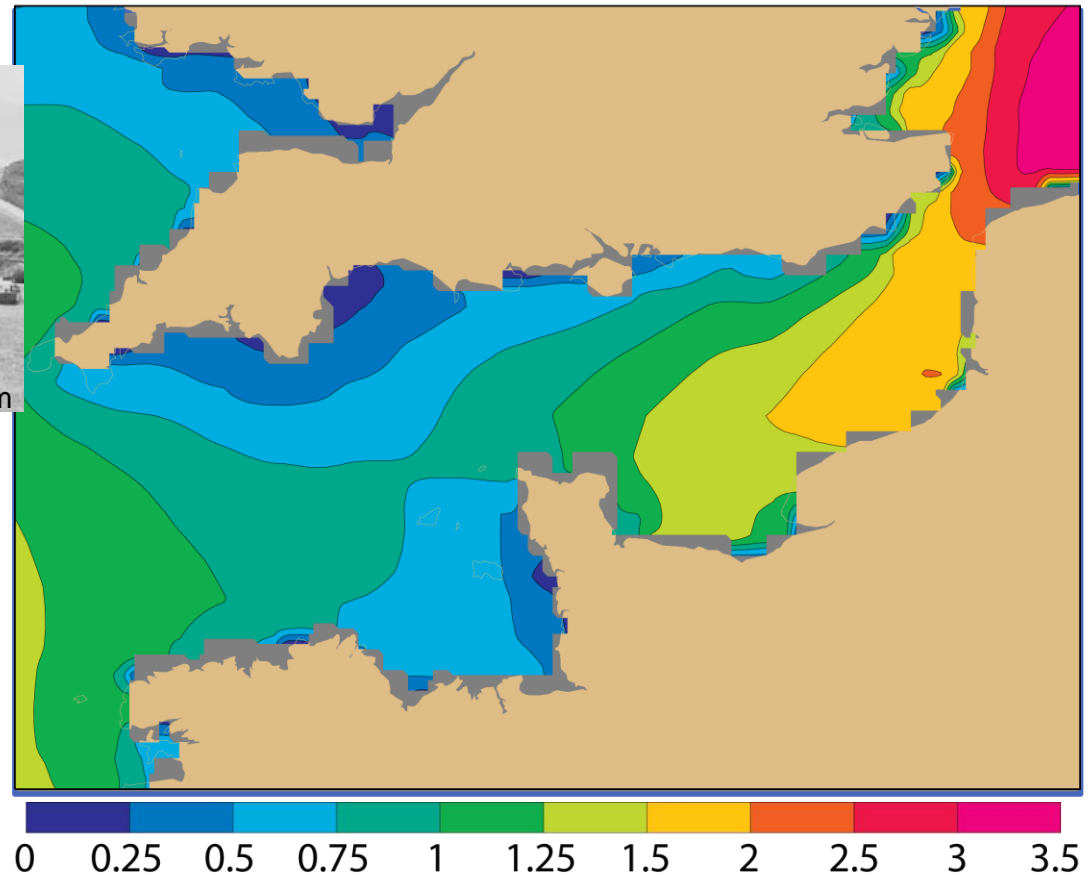


Imperial War Museum

Mulberry A

## Extract from a US Naval Report:

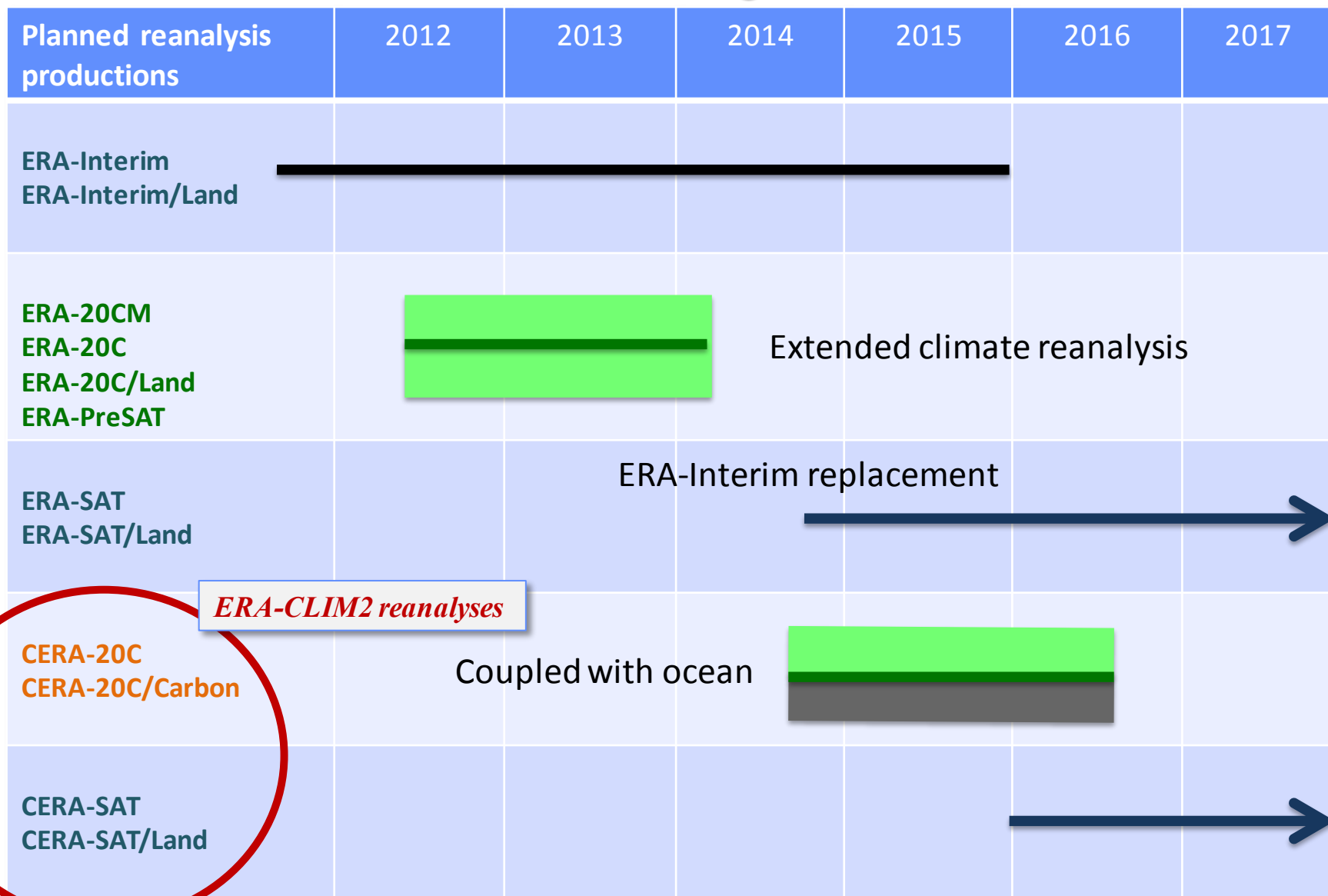
*... the velocity of the wind increased to 30 knots, with wave action of eight to ten feet...*



0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 1.25 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5

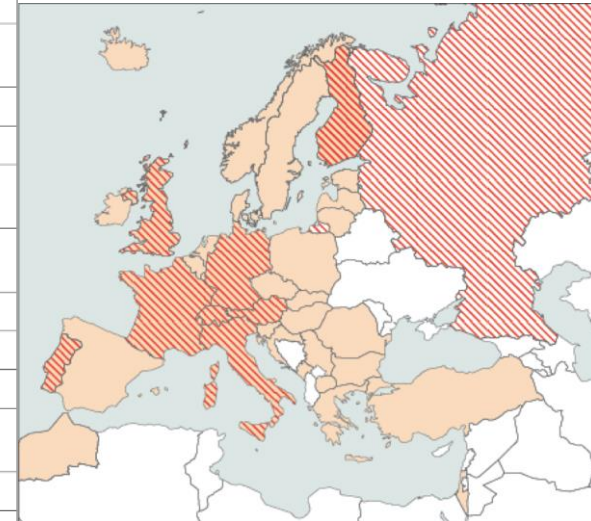
Significant wave height (metres)

from a wave model with  $0.1^\circ$  grid, driven by winds from successive 6h, 9h, 12h and 15h forecasts, produced 12 hourly



# ERA-CLIM2 project (2014-2016)

No	Name	Short name	Country
1	EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MEDIUM-RANGE WEATHER FORECASTS	ECMWF	United Kingdom
2	MET OFFICE	METO	United Kingdom
3	THE EUROPEAN ORGANISATION FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITES	EUMST	Germany
4	UNIVERSITAET BERN	UBERN	Switzerland
5	UNIVERSITAET WIEN	UNIVIE	Austria
6	FUNDACAO DA FACULDADE DE CIENCIAS DA UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA	FFCUL	Portugal
7	ALL-RUSSIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION-WORLD DATA CENTRE	RIHMI	Russian Federation
8	MERCATOR OCEAN	MERCO	France
9	METEO-FRANCE	METFR	France
10	DEUTSCHER WETTERDIENST	DWD	Germany
11	CENTRE EUROPEEN DE RECHERCHE ET DE FORMATION AVANCEE EN CALCUL SCIENTIFIQUE	CERFAC	France
12	CENTRO EURO-MEDITERRANEO SUI CAMBIAMENTI CLIMATICI SCARL	CMCC	Italy
13	ILMATIETEEEN LAITOS	FMI	Finland
14	THE UNIVERSITY OF READING	UREAD	United Kingdom
15	INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE EN INFORMATIQUE ET EN AUTOMATIQUE	INRIA	France
16	UNIVERSITE DE VERSAILLES SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES.	UVSQ	France



Within the EU research FP7 programme  
16 partners, 88 person-years

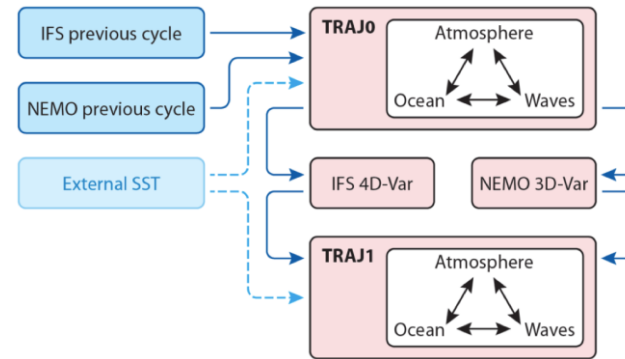
2 International organizations  
4 National Meteorological Services  
5 Academic institutions  
5 National research centres





# ERA-CLIM2 objectives

Ensemble of *20th-century reanalyses*, using a *coupled atmosphere-ocean model*, *including carbon cycle* across these domains



Usage of a sub-surface temperature and salinity ocean dataset from ERA-CLIM (EN-4)

New state-of-the-art *coupled global reanalysis of the satellite era* at improved spatial resolution, which will provide a climate monitoring capability *with near-real time data updates*

Continued *improvement of observational data sets, in-situ as well as satellite-based*, with a focus on temporal consistency and reliable estimates of essential climate variables

Development of tools and resources to help *assess uncertainties in reanalysis products*

# *ECMWF data server*

*Access to reanalysis data and observation quality information*

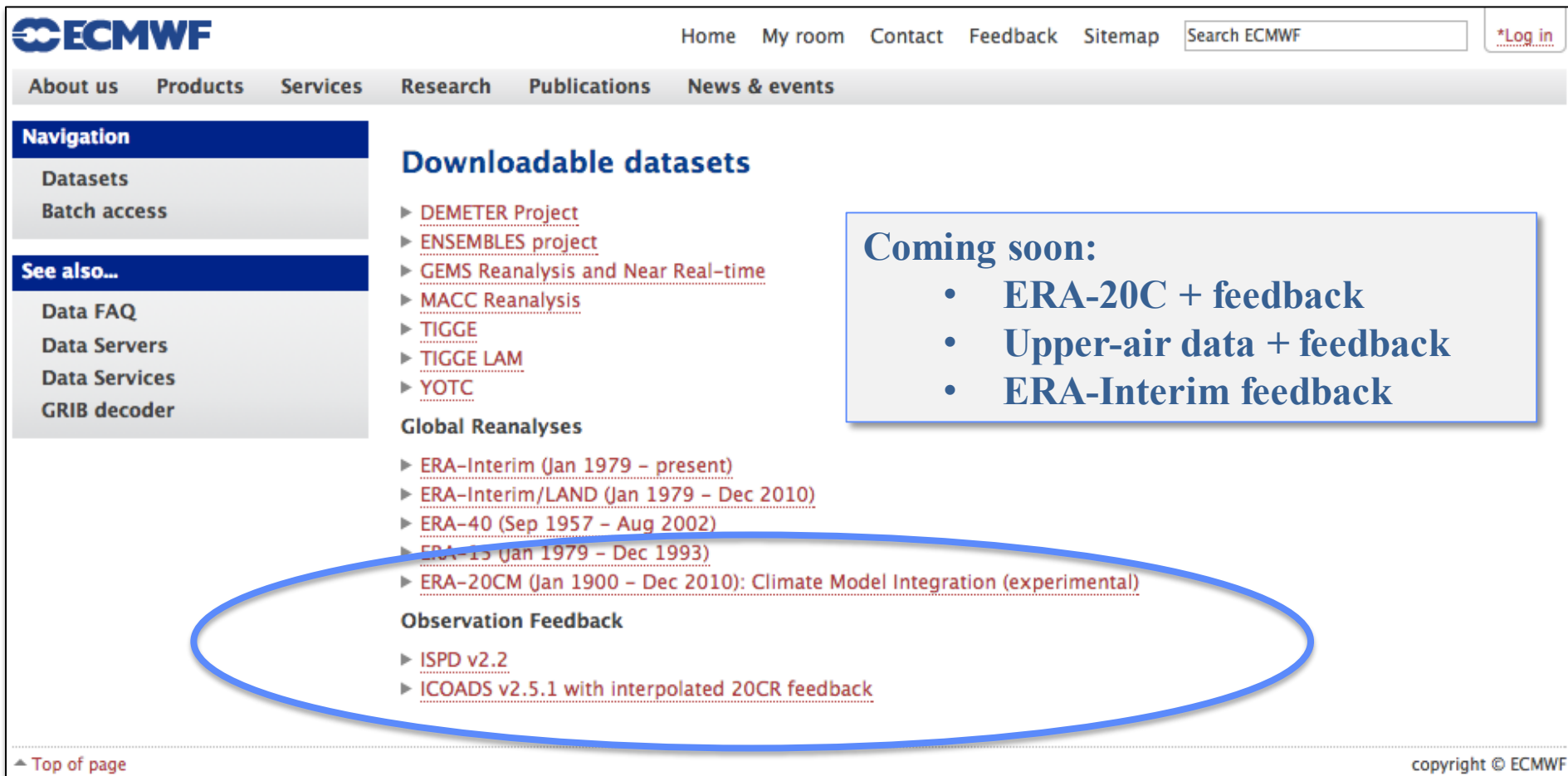
## **Model fields at full resolution**

- ERA-Interim, ERA-CLIM, ...

## **Observation feedback archive (OFA)**

- Based on data format used at ECMWF: **ODB**
  - ✓ One row per observation, not per report
  - ✓ Is, therefore, flexible
- Contains *valuable feedback* information:  
Quality control, model departures, bias estimates, traceability,...

Data server at <http://apps.ecmwf.int/datasets/>



The screenshot shows the ECMWF Data server website. The header includes the ECMWF logo, navigation links (Home, My room, Contact, Feedback, Sitemap), a search bar, and a login link. Below the header is a secondary navigation bar with links to About us, Products, Services, Research, Publications, and News & events. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main section. The sidebar contains a 'Navigation' menu with links to Datasets and Batch access, and a 'See also...' section with links to Data FAQ, Data Servers, Data Services, and GRIB decoder. The main section is titled 'Downloadable datasets' and lists several projects: DEMETER Project, ENSEMBLES project, GEMS Reanalysis and Near Real-time, MACC Reanalysis, TIGGE, TIGGE LAM, and YOTC. Below these are 'Global Reanalyses' including ERA-Interim (Jan 1979 - present), ERA-Interim/LAND (Jan 1979 - Dec 2010), ERA-40 (Sep 1957 - Aug 2002), ERA-15 (Jan 1979 - Dec 1993), and ERA-20CM (Jan 1900 - Dec 2010): Climate Model Integration (experimental). The 'Observation Feedback' section lists ISPD v2.2 and ICOADS v2.5.1 with interpolated 20CR feedback. A blue oval highlights the ERA-20CM and Observation Feedback sections. A 'Coming soon:' box on the right lists ERA-20C + feedback, Upper-air data + feedback, and ERA-Interim feedback. The footer includes a 'Top of page' link and a copyright notice for ECMWF.

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**Navigation**

- Datasets
- Batch access

**See also...**

- Data FAQ
- Data Servers
- Data Services
- GRIB decoder

**Downloadable datasets**

- ▶ [DEMETER Project](#)
- ▶ [ENSEMBLES project](#)
- ▶ [GEMS Reanalysis and Near Real-time](#)
- ▶ [MACC Reanalysis](#)
- ▶ [TIGGE](#)
- ▶ [TIGGE LAM](#)
- ▶ [YOTC](#)

**Global Reanalyses**

- ▶ [ERA-Interim \(Jan 1979 - present\)](#)
- ▶ [ERA-Interim/LAND \(Jan 1979 - Dec 2010\)](#)
- ▶ [ERA-40 \(Sep 1957 - Aug 2002\)](#)
- ▶ [ERA-15 \(Jan 1979 - Dec 1993\)](#)
- ▶ [ERA-20CM \(Jan 1900 - Dec 2010\): Climate Model Integration \(experimental\)](#)

**Observation Feedback**

- ▶ [ISPD v2.2](#)
- ▶ [ICOADS v2.5.1 with interpolated 20CR feedback](#)

**Coming soon:**

- ERA-20C + feedback
- Upper-air data + feedback
- ERA-Interim feedback

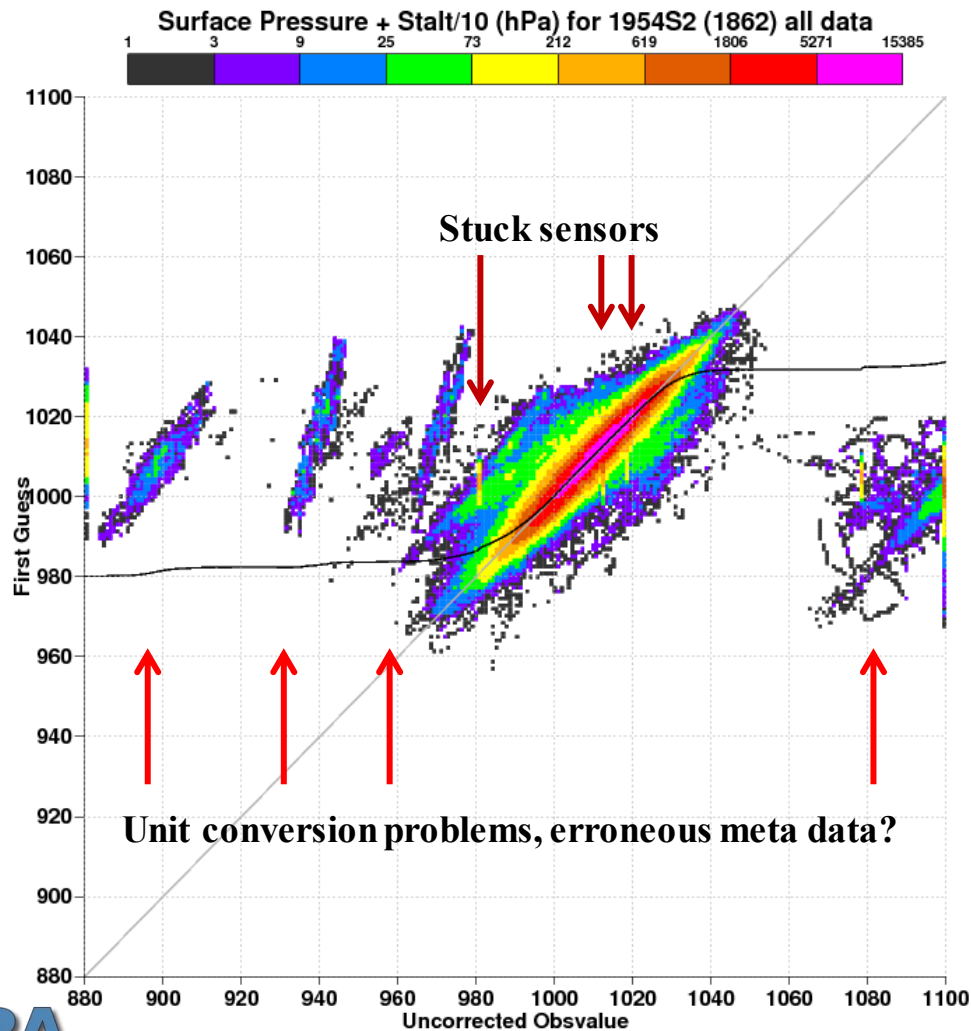
▲ Top of page

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# Feedback: Quality control

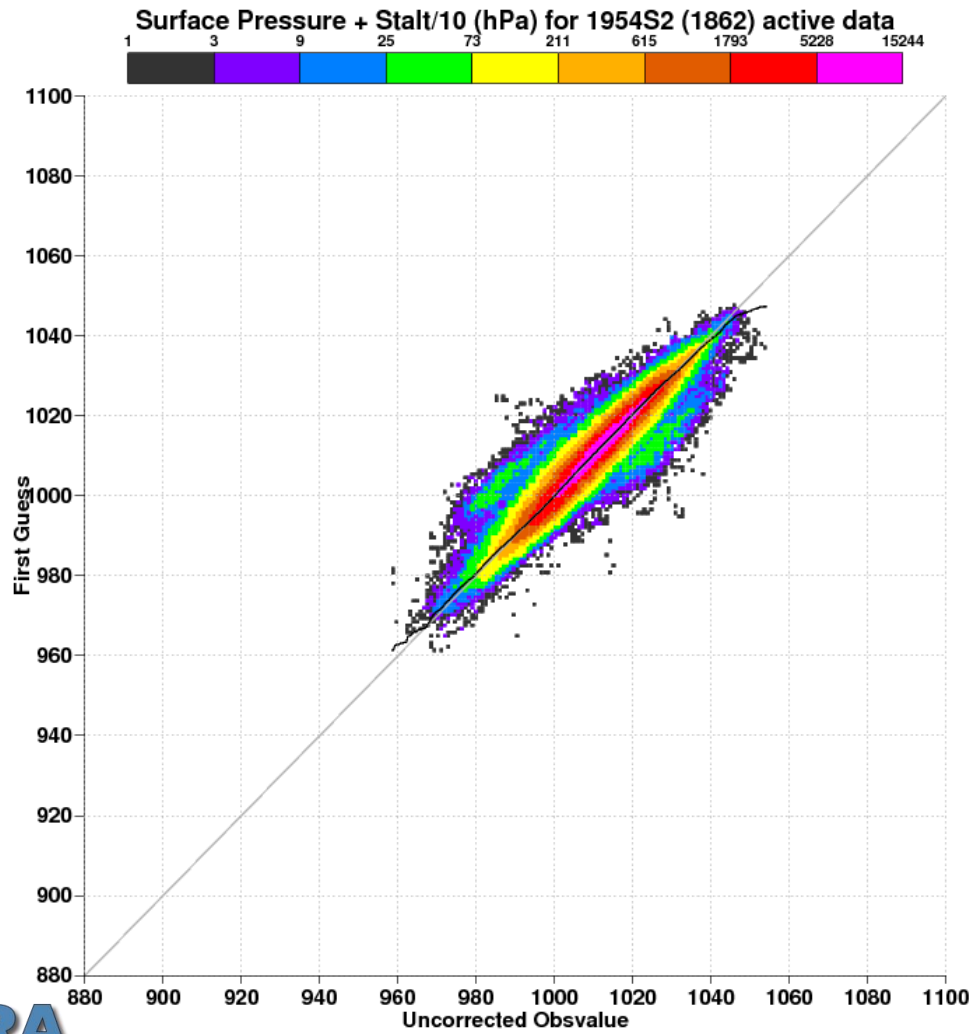
ERA-20C *all data*



Number of collocations: 1989418  
Y-X Mean, stdv: -0.003 15.675  
X Mean, stdv: 1010.623 17.344  
Y Mean, stdv: 1010.620 9.379

# Feedback: Quality control

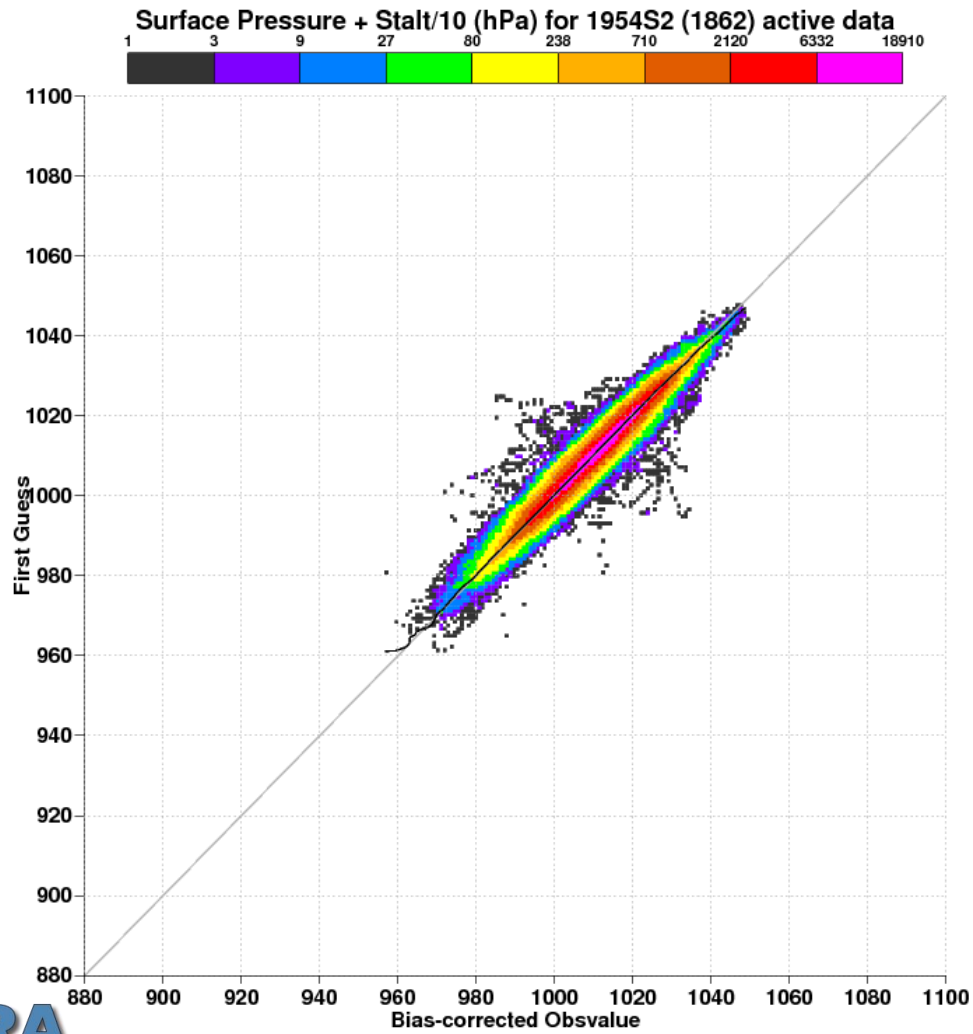
ERA-20C *after screening*



Number of collocations: 1910905  
Y-X Mean, stdv: 0.261 2.652  
X Mean, stdv: 1010.466 9.303  
Y Mean, stdv: 1010.728 9.364

# Feedback: Quality control

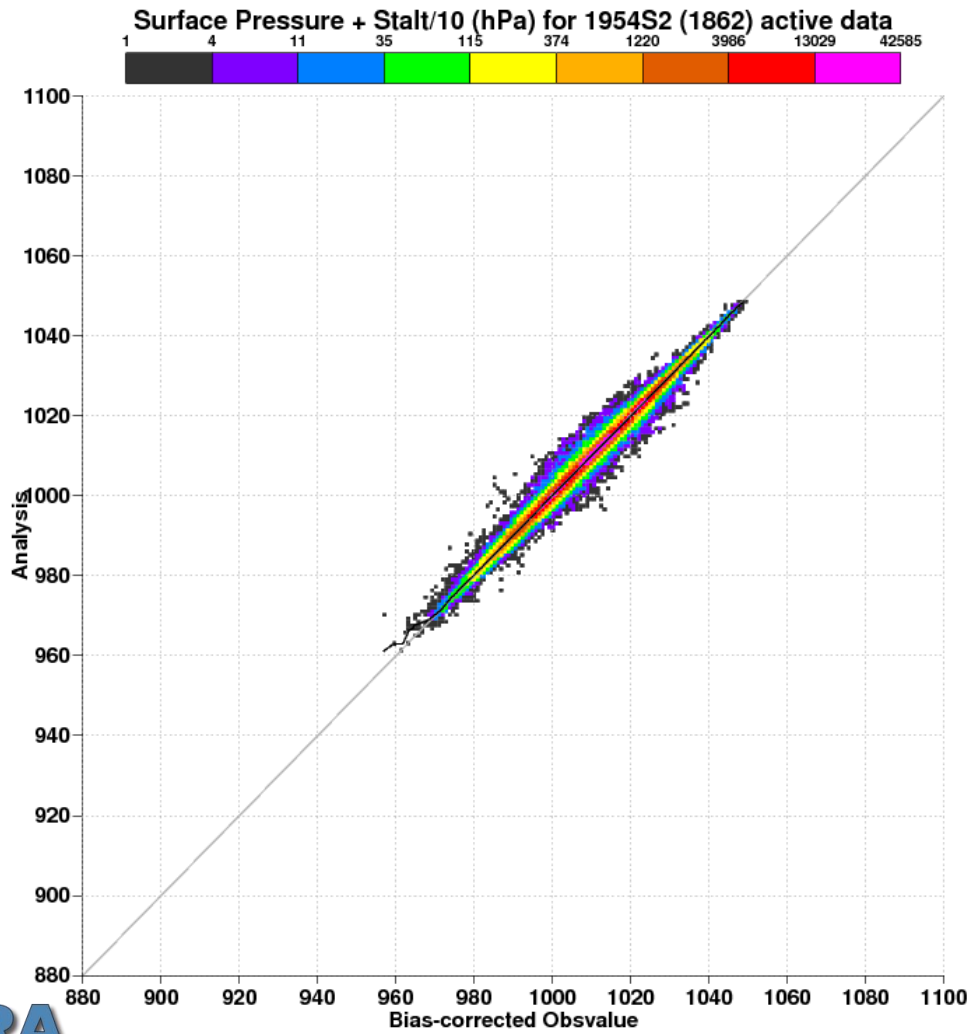
## ERA-20C *Bias Correction*



Number of collocations: 1910905  
Y-X Mean, stdv: 0.172 2.001  
X Mean, stdv: 1010.556 9.388  
Y Mean, stdv: 1010.728 9.364

# Feedback: Quality control

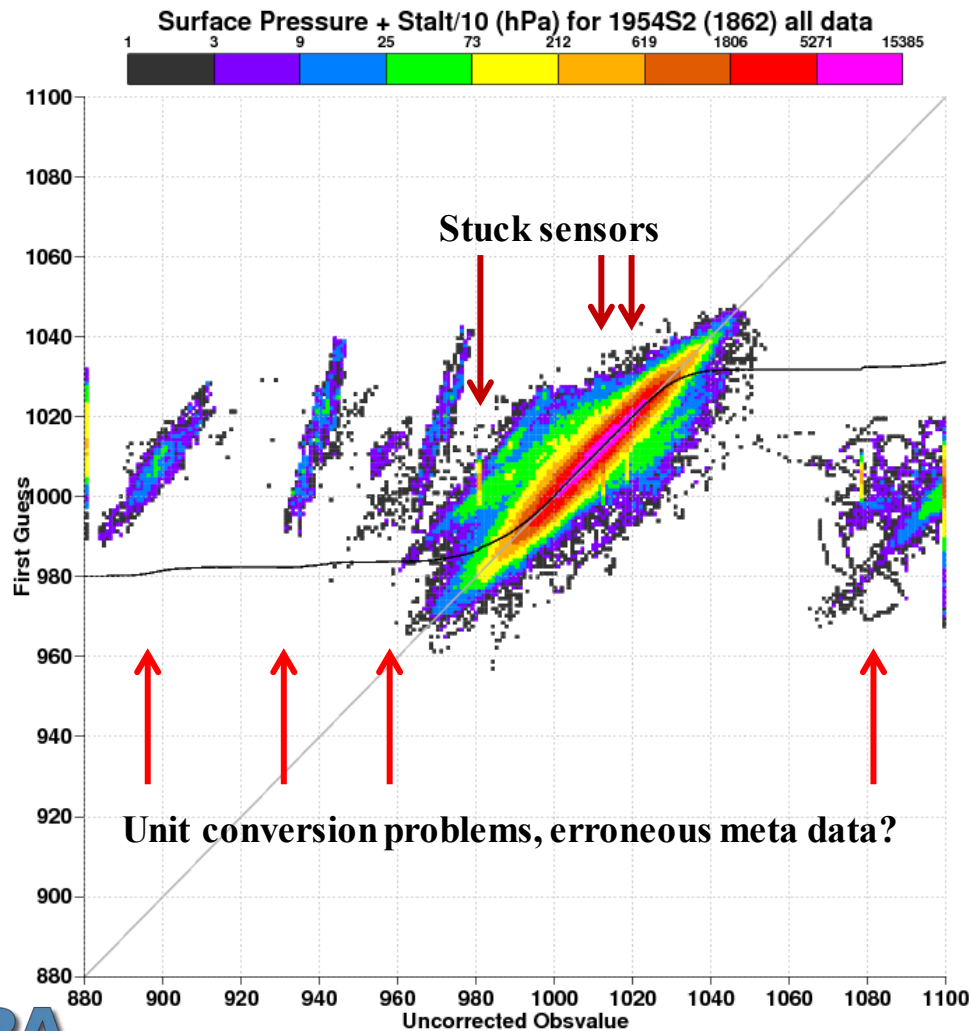
ERA-20C *after assimilation*



Number of collocations: 1910905  
Y-X Mean, stdv: -0.008 0.752  
X Mean, stdv: 1010.556 9.388  
Y Mean, stdv: 1010.547 9.329

# Feedback: Quality control

ERA-20C *all data*



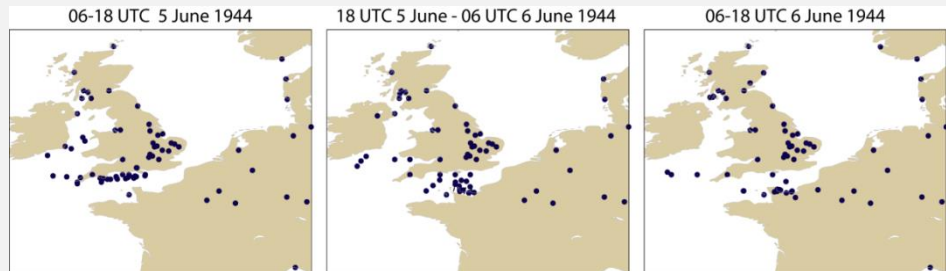
Number of collocations: 1989418  
Y-X Mean, stdv: -0.003 15.675  
X Mean, stdv: 1010.623 17.344  
Y Mean, stdv: 1010.620 9.379



# Final remarks

ERA-CLIM has initiated a class of century-long reanalyses at ECMWF

- **Data rescue: there is still a lot out there**



- **SST, sea-ice and radiative forcing** for the entire 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Coupling with the ocean in **ERA-CLIM2**

**ERA-Interim** is to be replaced by **ERA-SAT**

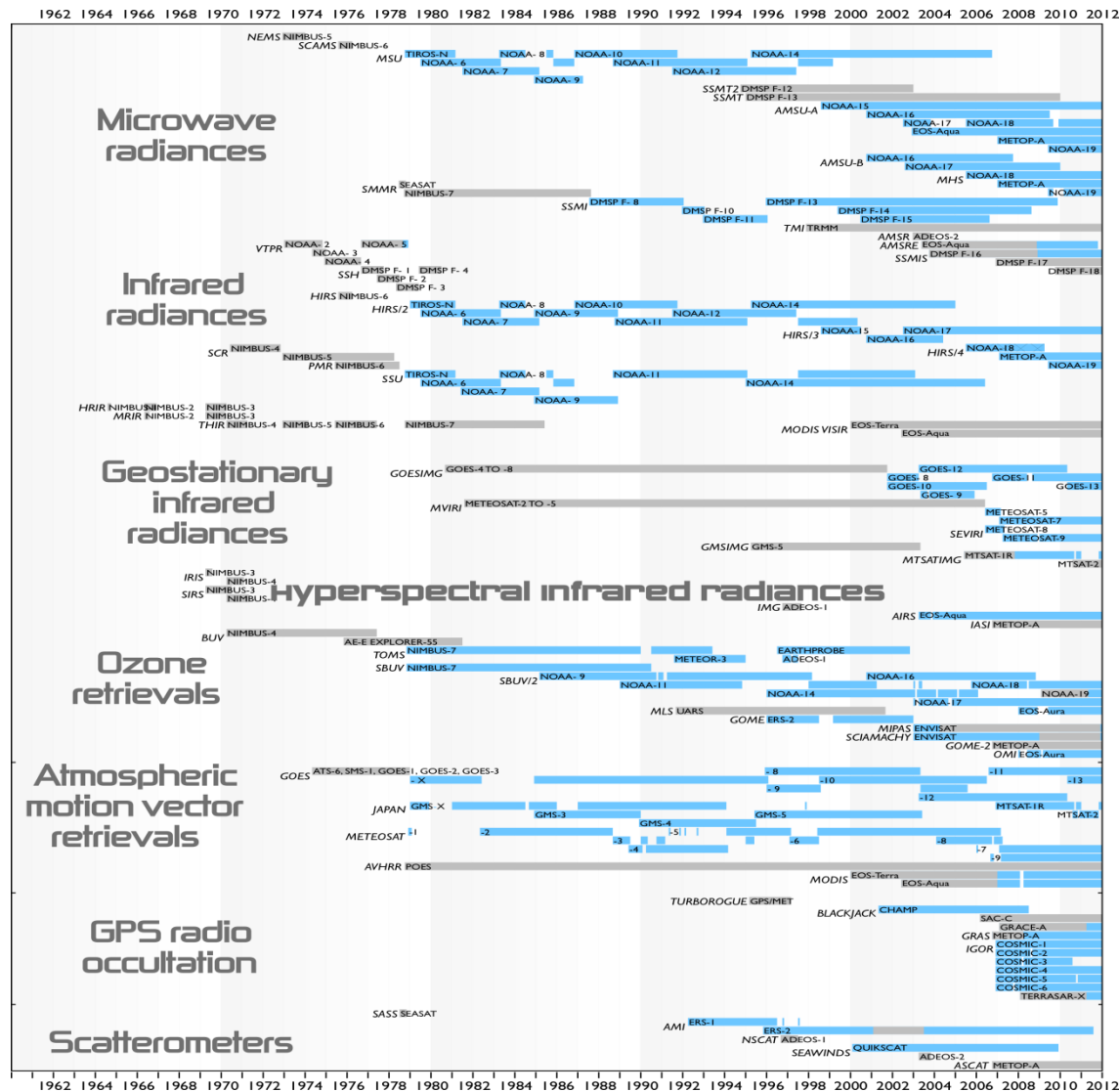
- Carries high expectations (ERA-Interim has now more than 20,000 users)
- ERA-SAT to be replaced by a ***coupled system*** in ~5 years

The ERA-CLIM reanalysis products will be freely available: [apps.ecmwf.int/datasets/](https://apps.ecmwf.int/datasets/)

- Model fields, atmosphere and ocean waves
- Observation feedback archive
- ERA-Interim feedback will be made available too

It is challenging to achieve 'climate quality' with an evolving observing system in an environment of model and observation bias.

# Increased satellite observation diversity



In blue: data that were assimilated in ERA-Interim

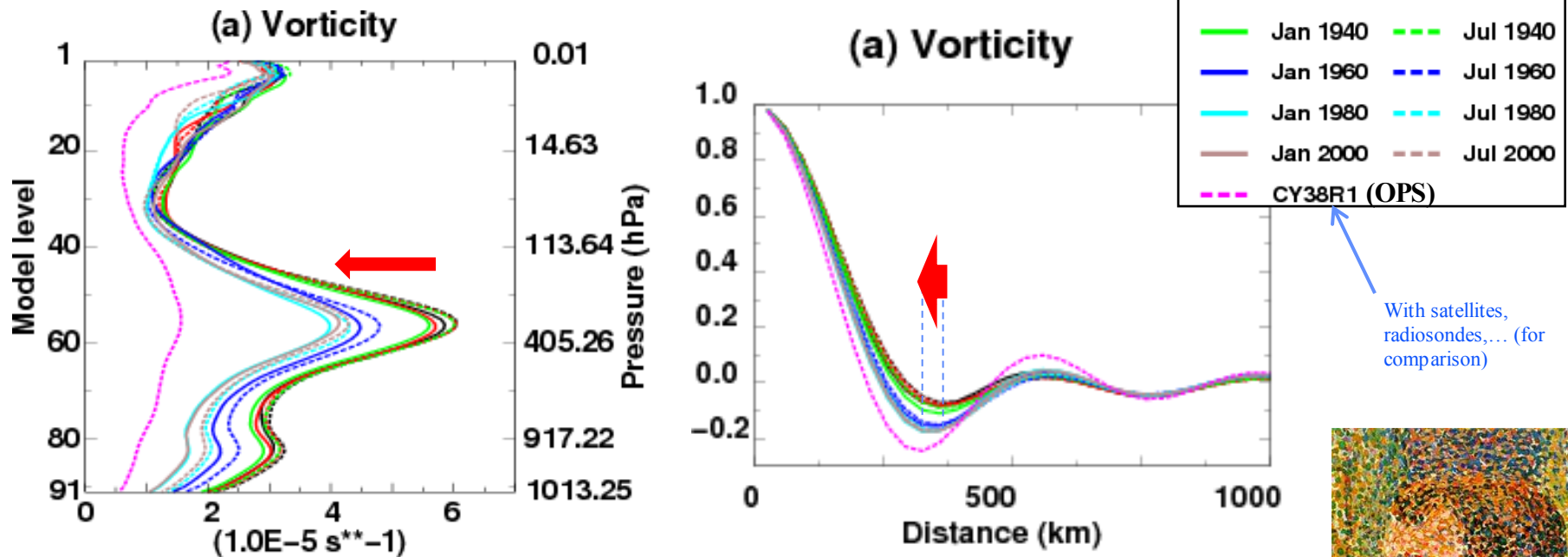
In grey: data that were not assimilated.  
...For future reanalyses...

Note the timeline starts in 1969

Observation timeline (atmosphere)

# Self-updating background error covariances, throughout the century

(updated every 10 days, based on past 90 days)



Over the course of the century, more observations result in...

→ **Smaller** background errors, with **sharper** horizontal structures

→ Analysis increments that are smaller, over smaller areas

= ERA-20C ensemble system adapts itself to the information available

